



Venue: Danbury Centre, Essex

FSA National Conference and AGM 6pm: Fri 26 Sep to 3pm Sun 28 Sep 2014

Full programme, shared cabin & food: £175 members/£200 non members (other options available). To book visit forestschoollassociation.org/fsa-national-conference-2014/ or contact enquiries@forestschoollassociation.org.

The Only Way Is Forest School – hosted by FSA Essex Fostering & exploring sustainability

Fri 26 Sep

18:00
19:00
19:30-21:30

Conference programme

Delegates arrival at Danbury Centre

Supper (available til 22:00 for late arrivals)

Get to know each other with a rolling programme of craft & skill share by conference participants for conference participants We would welcome as many people as possible to bring what you need to share with 10 people.

20:00
Talk by Danbury Local History Group

20:00 - 23:00
Bar open

Meeting old friends and making new ones throughout the evening. There will be a raffle with tickets being sold during the weekend - raffle prize donations very welcome - thank you!

Sat27Sep

08:00
09:00
09.45

Breakfast

Welcome address by Carol Middleton, FSA Essex & Jon Cree, Chair of FSA

Keynote: Phil Waters, Eden Project, Narrative Journeys



Based at the Eden project. Phil has developed a pedagogy called "Narrative Journey" which explores how children narrate their own nature experience and how narrative can be used as a tool to encourage children's attachments to nature.

10:45

Coffee

11.30

Workshop 1 (full description: forestschoollassociation.org/fsa-national-conference-2014/)

FS & Early Childhood Education for Sustainability • Foraging • Yoga Movement & Meditation with Trees • Living landscapes in FS • Megatastic Movement • Intro to IDing Tree Hazards • Carving Clinic • Nature games • Wild Paint and Paper Making • Good from Woods Research Toolkit • Storyscapes: the Giant's Underpants! • Enriching Storytelling • Worms and other rubbish makers • Storytelling and making for a Greener World • Natural cordage • Houses, dens & sustainable stories • Whittling, bead making and tree cookies • 'MyForestSchool' woodland management tool • Thinking about playing, playing with thinking • Fire carving



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Sat 27 Sep (cont.)

12:45

Lunch

13:30

FSA AGM - All FSA members welcome

14:15

Keynote: Jay Griffiths, author of *Kith: The Riddle of Childscape*



Jay Griffiths's question is simple: why do our children feel so unhappy? Her main answer lies in the title of her new book, *Kith*. Now used only in the phrase 'kith and kin', the word has come to mean something like 'extended family' or 'circle of friends'. But it originally referred to a person's 'home territory', the country or region where they lived. For Griffiths, our children have been cooped up indoors, imprisoned in front of their screens (whether television or computer), and they have lost all contact with their kith – with the woods and the wilds, the mountains and moors, the rivers and streams. That, she argues, is the heart of the problem. Jay will be bringing copies of her inspirational book *Kith* for sale.

15:15

Tea & networking

16:00

Workshop two – see list on previous page

17:30 - 19:00

Pop Up Trade Village. Book on the day - £5 for a blanket/small tarp pitch for you to sell your own handicrafts and homemade items. Also, KIT SWAP TABLE... bring kit you don't need and swap. If you haven't anything to swap, and wish to 'purchase' an item - donations to the FSA please.

17:30 - 19:00

Regional Local Groups Networking. Time to get together with others from your local group. If there isn't a local group already for your area - now's the time to form one!

19:00 - 20:00

Supper

20:00

Project Wild Thing screening

20:00 - 23:00

Bar open

20:30

Join us around the camp fire for storytelling with the magical Rich Sylvester followed by open mic session - time to share your talent!



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Sat 27 Sep

21:00

Music by talented folk band Fishclaw. 'There is a dark side to folk music that is hidden in back alleys and backwaters. It revels in not caring about what is fashionable and instead treads a path that follows unexplored senses. It embraces the powerful possibilities of rhythms and sounds to merge and build, inducing trance-like and hypnotic effects in those who hear it. It looks at the world with fresh eyes and helps others to do the same.' Unplugged after 22:00

21:30

We are going on a moth hunt for those who want to join this fascinating walk!

Sun 28 Sep

Before breakfast

Early morning Yoga and also Tracking

08:00 - 09:00

Breakfast

09:30

Keynote: Terri Harrison Camphill School, Aberdeen

Terri, together with her husband Daniel, has developed an early intervention approach known as Nature Nurture, which helps vulnerable children develop resilience. The key elements of Nature Nurture programmes are time spent in natural environments, nurturing by especially trained adults, and free play. In this presentation Terri will explore how Forest School approaches can help build the resilience of all children and she will challenge perceptions about vulnerability, behaviour and the role of Forest School practitioners in the health and well-being of the individuals who come to play in our woods. This presentation will be interactive, and apart from a talk about the theme illustrated with photographs from Nature Nurture programmes, it will also include games, activities, video clips as well as a guided conversation. Terri will send us away with lots of practical and positive thoughts and ways Forest School can build more sustainable and resilient learners.

10:30

Coffee

11:00

Discussion Groups. Find a topic you are interested in and sign up to the discussion group.

12.15

Summing up the conference with a few words from the FSA Chair, Jon Cree

13:00

Lunch then depart

Our thanks to FSA Essex for organising and hosting a brilliant conference.

Would your local FSA group like to host next year's conference? Please contact the FSA if your local group would like to be considered to host the 2015 FSA Conference.