



Learning in the
Great Outdoors

Family Literacy Day Honorary Chair, Barbara Reid

invites families to make outdoor time, fun family learning time! Barbara Reid is a picture book illustrator and author whose award-winning artwork is created using modelling clay.



Photo by: Ian Crysler Photographer

1. Outdoor scavenger hunt

Make a list of commonly found outdoor items, then go on a walk together with your list and see if you can find all the items.

2. Create a nature journal

Using a notebook, draw pictures and write stories about the different outdoor areas you've explored and the trees or animals you've come across.

3. Learn about winter species

Research online or at the library about winter birds and other animals in your region. Then, next time you're outside, see if you can find any of the species you've learned about.

4. Nature hike

Get some fresh air and exercise while practicing your math. Time your hike, work out the distance, and calculate your average speed on your hike.

5. Make story stones

Find rocks outside and draw a different nature-themed picture on each. Then take turns telling stories using the stones.

6. Head in the clouds

Look at the different clouds in the sky and see if the shapes of the clouds look like familiar objects, such as animals or people.

7. Number walk

As you put on your shoes, choose something you want to count during your walk. It could be dogs, trees, stop signs, cars—anything you want! On your walk, count how many you can find.

8. Snow art

Use emptied dish soap bottles filled with water and food colouring to write messages and draw in the snow.

9. A course of course

Build an obstacle course in your backyard or at a park and draw a map of how to go through it from beginning to end.

10. Adopt a tree

Pick a nearby tree that is special to you and spend time observing and learning about the tree.

Find more fun family learning activities at:
FamilyLiteracyDay.ca

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