



SAMPLE LETTER TO PARENTS

Outdoor Learning

Dear Families,

The outdoor learning environment plays an important role in the curriculum, providing students with opportunities to experiment and explore; ask questions and make observations; solve problems and build theories.

To enrich his or her learning experience, your child will be involved in learning activities on the school grounds and walking field trips within the community throughout the year.

You can help by:

- Dressing your children for outdoor learning **every day**. In **fall, winter, spring** and **summer**.
- Providing a change of clothing and shoes in case they are needed. If your child gets dirty, they have been active and engaged in their learning.
- Providing rubber boots for outdoor explorations when the ground and grass is wet.
- Providing a reusable water bottle and a high energy snack.
- A damp bagged towel or hand sanitizer and towel to clean their hands before snack time.
- Signing and returning the attached Walking Field Trip form.

Recommended Clothing:

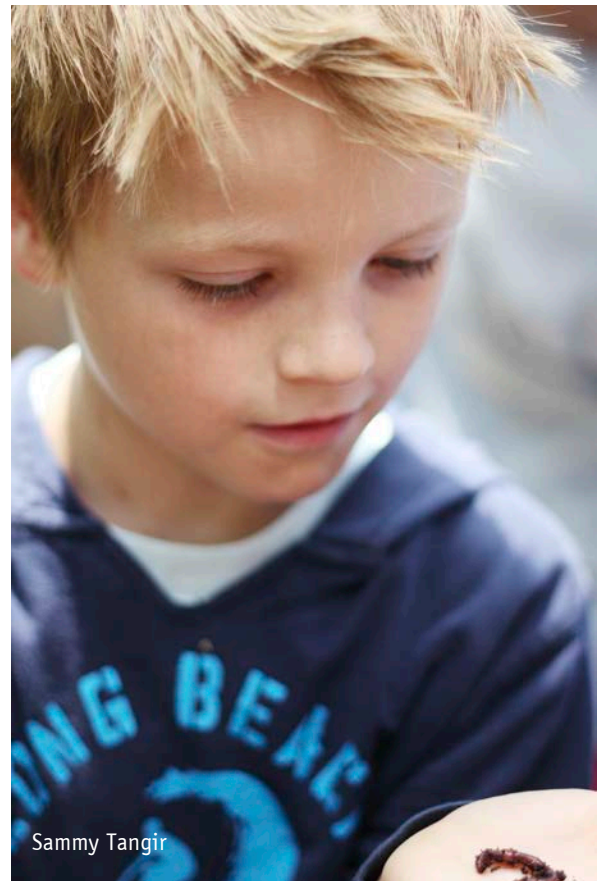
- Wool socks.
- Running or hiking shoes and a pair of rubber boots.
- Layers that are breathable and wick moisture away from the skin.
- Outer shell of waterproof, windproof clothing, including a rain jacket and rain pants.

When it is cold: please add:

- Warm and waterproof hat and gloves/mittens that slip on and off easily.
- Extra layers, including a warm and waterproof winter jacket and snow pants
- An extra pair of warm gloves and warm socks (students should carry these in their bag).
- Winter boots

When it is warm, please provide:

- A sun hat
- Sunscreen



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Acknowledgements:

Adapted from a letter by Maria Crowther, kindergarten teacher at Blaydon Public School in the Toronto District School Board, and the *Fresh Air Learning Safety Handbook*.

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