

## Matt Robinson

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**From:** Matt Robinson [Learning.through.Landscapes@cmp.charityemail.org.uk]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 10, 2013 9:55 AM  
**To:** Matt Robinson  
**Subject:** Ideas, resources and funding news for Outdoor Learning



## Get Outdoors

Supporting outdoor learning and play in Scotland

Inspiration, ideas, funding news and free resources for outdoor learning and play

September 2013

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Learning Resources

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### Learning Resources

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Grounds for Learning has over 120 lesson plans and many more curriculum and play ideas on-line - You can [access them for free](#), by signing up as a 'supporter' member.

Do you set 'outdoor homework'? We are collating all the great ideas together, to share in our next newsletter. Visit our [Facebook page](#) to see what others are doing and share your ideas.

National School Grounds Week is happening 9-13<sup>th</sup> of June, 2014 with a week of free outdoor learning ideas and resources. The theme will be "outdoor festivals" - get the date in your school diary now.

Our colleagues at EcoSchools Scotland are running their [Young Reporters for the Environment](#) competition - a fantastic challenge to **get your class outdoors**, and reporting on issues that they care about and can take action on.

Historic Scotland offer **FREE** access to their sites to educational groups, as well as

superb resources, lesson plans and support. They even assist with travel costs for some groups via a grant scheme. Visit their [learning pages](#).

ProjectWildThing is about to take to the big screen - see what all [the buzz is about](#).

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## Playground Design



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Celebrate with us the transformation of Scottish playgrounds, under year 1 of the Natural Play project in Stirling, Clackmannanshire and South Lanarkshire - [a brilliant before, during and after gallery is now on Flickr](#). 10 more schools are under way in Edinburgh and Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, as year 2 gets under way.

Our FREE Good Playground Guide is nearing publication: [register here](#) to be the first to see a copy.

The *Designing School Grounds* book is full of information, guidance and ideas to inspire the best possible designs for school grounds, as well as examples of schools that have used the development of their grounds to enhance the formal, informal and hidden curricula. You can [download it for free](#) from our site.

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## Inspiration



Clydebank Early Education and Childcare Centre applied for funding from the BIG lottery's awards for all program and received a grant to help them to [develop their outdoor space](#).

Fasque Family Centre have transformed an unused island of grass in the middle of the car park across the road from the nursery into a beautiful garden in which the [children can play and explore](#).

Burnbrae and Cleeves opened in 2009 both as a new building and as a new school combining the previous three local schools of Burnbrae, Househillmuir and Nitshill. Thier grounds have seen a [comprehensive make-over](#).

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## GfL Staff News



Early Years project worker [Julie Buchanan](#) will leave a talented pair of shoes for someone to fill at the end of September. Julie's engaging and effective work, inspiring play as families and with young children has had remarkable impact, for which they and we are very thankful.

Strategic Programmes Manager [Alastair Seaman](#) has led GfL for over 6 years, and many of you have been inspired by his passion for play and outdoor learning, and his ability to communicate and plan with clarity and vision. He has an exciting new role as International Director of the [International Nepal Fellowship](#).

We are delighted to announce the appointment of [Alison Motion](#) as our new Scotland Director. She will take up her post with Grounds for Learning in mid October after leaving her current role as the [RHET](#) (Royal Highland Education Trust) Education Manager.

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## Training and Advice



**Playtime Revolution** is a FREE series of 10 films with matching discussion notes - an ideal training resources for anyone who supervises play in schools at breaks and lunchtimes. Sign up to be notified of the launch [here](#) and watch the introductory film on [Youtube](#).

**Let us provide your INSET training!** From developing your school grounds to delivering excellent outdoor learning across the curriculum, let us inspire and equip your staff. Follow the appropriate link for details of [early years](#), [primary](#) or [secondary](#) INSET courses. Or [contact us](#) if you'd like to discuss something bespoke.

**We can visit your school** to advise on how you can improve your grounds for outdoor learning and play? Find out more [here](#).

**Online CPD** - hundreds of hours of guided online CPD in outdoor learning and play for teachers and early years practitioners. Sign up [here](#)

## Funding



The [2014 Commonwealth Legacy Fund \(Active Places Programme\)](#) has been supporting a number of school playground developments. Grants between £10,000 and £100,000 are available for a wide variety of community-led projects, including new projects on school estates.

The [Carbon Challenge Fund](#) and [Junior Carbon Challenge Fund](#) tackles climate change through community led initiatives.

Upto £2000 is available for the promotion of ecological issues, from the [British Ecological Outreach Grants](#)

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## Guest blog

This month's guest comment is from Sir David Attenborough - on the English crisis for school places, and the impact on outdoor learning. Read it [here](#)

## Contact Us

Keep in touch with us regularly for news, funding opportunities and resources by emailing or following us



Grounds for Learning is the Scottish programme of the UK charity Learning through Landscapes and it supports outdoor learning and play for children. Grounds for Learning is a registered Scottish charity (SC038890), Wallace House, 17-21 Maxwell Place, Stirling FK8 1JU. Tel: 01786 477190.

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