

# A Sense of Place

Companionship and discovery outdoors



## **NEW PROJECT for GRANDPARENTS WITH TODDLER GRANDCHILDREN - Starting September 2015**

*"If a child is to keep his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him (or her) the joy, excitement, and mystery of the world we live in" Rachel Carson*

Are you a grandparent of a child between the ages of 10 – 36 months?  
Are you interested in exploring out of doors with your grandchild?  
Are you interested in how your grandchild learns and develops?  
Are you interested in developing your own skills of observation and also taking videos?

We are offering the opportunity for a limited number of grandparents with their children to join a new project starting September 2015.

### **Further details:**

A new project beginning in Sept 2015, meeting for 5 evenings over the autumn term.

### **Proposed Dates and Timing**

#### **5 x Tuesday evenings:**

22<sup>nd</sup> September 13<sup>th</sup> October 3<sup>rd</sup> November 17<sup>th</sup> November 1<sup>st</sup> December

**Time:** 6.30pm – 9.00pm

### **Group Size**

We have space for 8 grandparents of young children between the ages of 10 - 36 months.

### **Aims:**

1. *To explore the natural and built environment of the local community and have fun outdoors*
2. *To develop children's confidence, skills and natural curiosity to learn outdoors*



3. *To learn more about how children and grandparents learn together and about intergenerational changes in the way we connect with the wider ecological world*
4. *To develop grandparents' skills in observing and understanding child development*
5. *To develop grandparents' skills in taking good photos and videos*
6. *To share experience with other grandparents*

### **What does the project involve?**

As a participant, if you get a place on this course, you will need to be committed to attend all 5 Tuesday evening sessions, which will be held in East Oxford. These sessions will be a mixture of teaching (e.g. about observation and filming), learning together and group discussion. In between group sessions you will be expected to go on regular explorations outdoors with your grandchild, and take some video/photos or other recordings to share with the group. Where possible another family member or friend could film you and your grandchild exploring together. We also want to make a film of the project overall – you will be able to approve any footage or photos before they are shared outside of the group.

### **What will you and your grandchild gain from this project?**

The group sessions will be an opportunity for you to share and learn from the facilitator and from other grandparents and your regular explorations and focussed observations may benefit you and your grandchild in a number of ways:

- You and your grandchild may gain greater awareness of the built and natural environment around their home and community
- Your grandchild may develop increased confidence and motivation to explore and learn outdoors
- You and your grandchild may feel physically and mentally healthier and happier as result of going outdoor more
- You will have developed new skills in documentation and use of video/filming
- You will have developed your own capacity to learn and grow together with your grandchild
- You will have a pack of ideas and resources of things to do with your grandchild outdoors.

About the tutor/facilitator:

Annie Davy is an independent consultant who has had an enduring interest in early childhood development and in human connection with the wider ecological world. Annie is an experienced leader in Early Years (former Head of Early Years for Oxfordshire). An early years teacher by training she uses a wide range of theoretical perspectives, practical tools and methods. She established Forest Schools across Oxfordshire and Barrack Lane Community Garden in her community. She is advisor and early years speaker for Learning through Landscapes ([www.ltl.org.uk](http://www.ltl.org.uk)) the UK leading national charity in Outdoor Learning. She is a mother, stepmother and grandmother to a diverse extended family.

**If you are interested please contact: [thenatureeffect@gmail.com](mailto:thenatureeffect@gmail.com)**

