

Individualised Professional Services

NaturePlay NZ is committed to providing you training and in-centre support that targets your specific needs. Each workshop is individually created & tailored for you. Please contact us for costs.



In center – staff support/training

We work alongside staff and children providing in-house Professional Development. We support teachers and processes to create environments and relationships with children/community that reflect the powerful essence and lessons of Nature as our teacher. Peace, truth, love and joy.

Our clients find this approach very beneficial as a staff mentoring and coaching tool.

Whole day and Mini Workshops (up to 3 hours)

We deliver our **themes** (as shared overleaf) as whole day or mini workshops, designed to fit into your centres busy schedules. These can run weekends or evenings. A cost effective approach which enables you to reach all your staff and wider community if required.

NaturePlay NZ was founded in 2008 by Anna Gentry and Dean Aplin. Their collective skills and experience are as experiential educators, teachers, lecturers and facilitators of team development.

Parents to 3 young children, they live an inspiring life close to and in harmony with nature. They endeavour to raise eco-literate children who live fulfilling, joyful, and peaceful lives.

They bring a lifetime of knowledge to educators working with children and nature.

Our Philosophy

Its simple.....**Nature is our greatest teacher.**

We believe that if given the opportunity children will develop a powerful positive personal relationship with the earth.

A relationship of integrity, love, and respect. We trust in the lessons of mother earth celebrating the gifts of the elements: earth, air, fire and water.

Also by NaturePlay NZ



Nature Playscapes

Design and construction services for outdoor natural play spaces.



Made in Nature

Natural Play products. An extensive catalogue can be viewed from our website.

To find out more or discuss your specific needs

Contact: Anna Gentry / Dean Aplin
NaturePlay NZ ~ 09 434 4349

info@natureplaynz.co.nz

See also www.natureplaynz.co.nz

Connecting the child's heart to the earth's heart



Workshops & Training for Early Childhood Educators

NaturePlay NZ

Provides teacher workshops which support key aspects of childhood development.

All workshops will inspire the educator through the wisdom of nature.

Our approach is unique, our workshops are hands on. You will be inspired to take action and make a positive difference!

Where possible workshops will be facilitated outdoors in nature. Otherwise we will bring nature to you.

www.natureplaynz.co.nz

info@natureplaynz.co.nz

09 4344 349

Other Training

Residential 2 day & 2 night workshop

“Back to Nature”

This workshop explores and develops the educators philosophy of their relationship with the natural world, and the importance of the child's relationship with nature.

Gain the insight, knowledge, and tools to have confidence when working with children in nature, utilising nature's gift and activities to support their development.

Learn about and create your own appreciation for nature as our teacher, your own personal pedagogy. For those individuals looking to develop depth to their Nature Education skills and knowledge, a personal and professional journey awaits.



Team Development & Team Building

Developing high performing teams is one of our joys. Programs are created to meet your workplace needs and outcomes.

We utilise the outdoors, nature and adventure activities to support the learning.

Programs vary from half day to multi days and could include team development tools such as tetra mapping. “developing people and organizations the way nature intended.” (see www.tetramap.com)

Outdoor activities and challenges are tailored to your team's level of fitness & ability. Our focus is a success experience.

Workshop Themes

Nature our Teacher

Explore Nature centered principles which can guide you to implement, or support, “nature education” in your early childhood setting.

Join us and remember the lessons nature teaches us and how important the relationship with the natural world is in the development of the whole child.

This is an interactive workshop taking you on a personal journey into the realms of the role of Nature as the Teacher. “Connecting the Child's heart with the earth's heart”. Includes planning approaches and constructive links to Te Whāriki.

Inspired by nature

A creative and imaginative play workshop

An experiential workshop invoking the imagination of the teacher. Get into the flow and remind yourself of the joy and magic that happens when we allow ourselves to be creative in nature.

Sculpture, den making, construction, water and sand play are explored and experienced. Make birds nests and dream catchers. Delve into the world of magic, awe and wonder. Be a child for just one day and remind yourself of the wonder that lies within and the importance of the relationship of creativity and imaginative play to the development of the whole

Exploration and Science

Discovery through Nature - (Re)discover the relationship of nature and exploration. Gather fresh ideas for earth cycles, water cycles, plant cycles, animal cycles, build living landscapes, explore weather, sustainability concepts and more. Work with the seasons to support planning and learning opportunities. This is an experiential hands on workshop.

Workshop Themes

Plant Wisdom

Gain the confidence and knowledge to fully utilise or develop your living nature spaces.

Learn new ways & gain ideas to engage children with plants. Understand the source of food, how to grow it, nurture it, harvest it, and of course enjoy eating it.

Organic vegetable growing, seed raising and saving, edible flowers, flower friends, growing fruit, native plants for eating and healing & much more!

Design your living classroom and learn to plan for seasonal planting, how to create safe, edible, interactive sensorial environments that link wider learning opportunities.

Fresh, organic, wholesome learning.



Leadership - Nature's way

To lead others effectively you must first learn to lead yourself, as a tree must be firmly grounded before it can support further life in its tree top.

What we observe in nature can provide inspiration and clarity into how we operate in our own lives and our professional roles. By attending this workshop you will develop a deeper understanding of your natural leadership qualities and how it influences your actions and your team.

Utilize the powerfully simple Tetra map tool to assist you on the journey.

“developing people and organizations the way nature intended”. (see www.tetramap.com)