

## Playing With the Elements



### Playwork Partnerships

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This course has been developed as part of the CWLWM project with funding from the European Social Fund's EQUAL programme.

**Playing with the Elements is a new playwork training course for anyone who wants to enable and facilitate high quality outdoor play for children.**

### Alternative format

This leaflet is also available in braille and in large print.

Please contact:

01242 71 4603

[team@playwork.co.uk](mailto:team@playwork.co.uk)

to request it in alternative formats.

**Playing with the Elements** is a new playwork training course that will be submitted for SkillsActive\* endorsement at Level 3.

### **The aims of the course are to:**

- Recognise the importance of children's outdoor play and interaction with natural elements.
- Enable direct experiences with each of the natural elements and explore practical elemental activity 'springboards' that can be adapted and modified to different settings.
- Provide knowledge, information and guidelines on the principles and best practice of outdoor playwork, including awareness of how to overcome specific barriers.
- Explore ways in which any play provision can be improved or added to in order to best facilitate elemental play outdoors.
- Introduce conceptual ideas about children's play through considering the importance and significance of the four natural elements.

### **How long is the course?**

Playing with the Elements is a 30 hour course – five sessions of 3.5 hours then a final session of 4.5 hours plus 8 personal reflective practice hours.

The session titles are:

1. **Introducing the Elements**
2. **Earth**
3. **Fire**
4. **Water**
5. **Air**
6. **Mixing the Elements**

### **Who is the course aimed at?**

This level 3 playwork course is designed for playworkers and others who work with children aged 4-16 years.

### **Can anyone undertake the course?**

Students must have undertaken some playwork study at level 2. They must be currently working with children.

A diversity of learning needs and styles will be recognised by your qualified tutor. This will be in line with our Equal Opportunities Policy. The course will be delivered in a manner that will include all students.

### **Is this course a recognised training course?**

Yes Playing with the Elements is certificated by Playwork Partnerships. It will be endorsed by SkillsActive. It is linked to the National Occupational Standards and recognises skills, knowledge and understanding needed for some units of the NVQ Level 3 in Playwork. For you to receive the full certificate you must

- Attend 80% of the Playing with the Elements course
- Actively participate in sessions
- Complete assessments including a reflective course diary

### **Student materials**

A Playing with the Elements student handbook is available. It contains useful ideas and activities for students to refer to throughout the course and references further contacts.

\* SkillsActive – The Sector Skills Council for Active Leisure and Learning. Log on to [www.skillsactive.com](http://www.skillsactive.com)