

Table 1: Summary of Selected Outdoor Education (OE) Systems/Programs Outside of Ontario

Country and/or Region	Types of OE Intervention(s)	Curriculum Focus and Audience	Funding	Additional Information	Reference
Finland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>In school lesson plans</li><li>Excursions, camp schools, nature schools</li></ul>	<p><b>Focus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sustainability</li><li>Leadership/ Personal development focus</li></ul> <p><b>Audiences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Currently 7-16 YOA</li><li>Anticipating 16-18 YOA</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Publicly funded</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Based on idea of ‘responsibility for environment, well-being and a sustainable future</li><li>Mental health benefits</li><li>At Finnish schools, the term “outdoor education” represents teaching and learning that takes place outside the classroom with the aim to achieve goals in the National core curriculum for basic education (NCC, 2004, 39) and in the National core curriculum for upper secondary schools (NCC, 2003, 28–29).</li><li>National Strategy for Environmental Education (EE)</li><li>Strategy for Sustainable Development Education (SDE) (Loukola et al., 2002).</li><li>EE, SDE and OE take place in a variety of formats in schools and universities as well as informal educational institutions in youth work and social services in the public and private sectors.</li></ul>	<p>Forest Schools in Finland <a href="https://theculturetrip.com/europe/finland/articles/what-we-can-learn-from-finlands-forest-schools/">https://theculturetrip.com/europe/finland/articles/what-we-can-learn-from-finlands-forest-schools/</a></p> <p>Outdoor Education in Finland <a href="https://ioern.files.wordpress.com/2012/03/finland_1.pdf">https://ioern.files.wordpress.com/2012/03/finland_1.pdf</a></p> <p>Guardian Article <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/education/2016/sep/20/grammar-schools-play-europe-top-education-system-finland-daycare">https://www.theguardian.com/education/2016/sep/20/grammar-schools-play-europe-top-education-system-finland-daycare</a></p>
Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>In school, overnight, and day experiences</li></ul>	<p><b>Focus:</b></p> <p>Content from the Australian Curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Health and Physical Education</li><li>Humanities and Social Sciences</li><li>Geography, Science</li></ul> <p>General capabilities and cross-curriculum priorities can be organized and delivered through learning in the outdoors (K–6) and outdoor education (7–10)</p> <p><b>Audiences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>K-10</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Publicly funded</li><li>Fee for service</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>They develop skills and understandings while valuing a positive relationship with natural environments and promoting the sustainable use of these environments.</li><li>The teaching and learning of self-reliance, interdependence and leadership</li><li>The development of an adventurous spirit</li><li>Managing personal risks</li><li>Experiencing safe journeys in nature</li><li>Learning the value of lifelong outdoor recreation for enjoyment, health and wellbeing</li><li>Understanding nature through direct experience; and the development of deeper human–nature relationships.</li></ul>	<p>Curriculum for Learning <a href="https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/resources/curriculum-connections/portfolios/outdoor-learning/">https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/resources/curriculum-connections/portfolios/outdoor-learning/</a></p> <p>Outdoor Education Australia <a href="https://outdooreducationaustralia.org.au/education/curriculum-guidelines/">https://outdooreducationaustralia.org.au/education/curriculum-guidelines/</a></p>

Denmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Udeskole (outdoor school) ages 7-16. Weekly or bi-weekly day experiences (approx. 14% of schools practicing Uderskole)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Teacher initiated (not mandatory for all) but there is mention of OE in various subject curricula</p> <p><b>Audiences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ages 7-16</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicly Funded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Udeskole theory – uses outdoor environment to make links to topics/subjects of study</li> <li>Designed to enhance cultural learning and work experience</li> <li>Encourages social interaction among the class</li> <li>Numbers of teachers using uderskole principles increasing in Danish schools</li> </ul>	<p>Udeskole Theory  <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/254238856_The_nature_of_udeskole_Outdoor_learning_theory_and_practice_in_Danish_schools">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/254238856_The_nature_of_udeskole_Outdoor_learning_theory_and_practice_in_Danish_schools</a></p>
Singapore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camping trips</li> <li>Trips abroad to study other cultures and climates</li> <li>Visits to ‘adventure centres’</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Dr. Goh Ken Suee’s “Outward Bound School”</p> <p><b>Audiences:</b> Ranging from younger students to college level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicly funded</li> <li>Fee for service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designed to build tenacity and with a focus on inclusiveness – to allow every child to thrive in a globalized environment</li> <li>Feeling connected to nature is linked to students holistic and creative thinking</li> <li>Objective is to provide important need for human minds to connect with sources of stimulation from nature – for children living in cosmopolitan areas</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.edu-quip.co.uk/blog/4-countries-who-are-championing-outdoor-learning-and-why-we-should-be-doing-the-same">https://www.edu-quip.co.uk/blog/4-countries-who-are-championing-outdoor-learning-and-why-we-should-be-doing-the-same</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.straitstimes.com/forum/letters-in-print/outdoor-education-develops-students-in-ways-classrooms-cant">https://www.straitstimes.com/forum/letters-in-print/outdoor-education-develops-students-in-ways-classrooms-cant</a></p>
New Zealand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Day</li> <li>Excursion based</li> <li>In-school</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Mandatory in curricula with strong physical education roots</p> <p><b>Audiences:</b> Primary and secondary schools (<b>note:</b> compulsory to be part of lesson plans for PE up to 14 years of age)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicly funding</li> <li>Fee for service (centres)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The specific aims of the outdoor education learning area were to “provide students with opportunities to develop personal and social skills, to become active, safe, and skilled in the outdoors, and to protect and care for the environment</li> <li>Adventure activities and outdoor pursuits that focus on physical skill development, fun, and enjoyment</li> <li>Adventure activities and outdoor pursuits that focus on the development of personal and interpersonal skills</li> <li>Learning about the traditions, values, and heritages of their own and other cultural groups</li> </ul>	<p>Ministry of Education  <a href="https://health.tki.org.nz/Teaching-in-HPE/Health-and-PE-in-the-NZC/Health-and-PE-in-the-NZC-1999/Key-areas-of-learning/Outdoor-Education">https://health.tki.org.nz/Teaching-in-HPE/Health-and-PE-in-the-NZC/Health-and-PE-in-the-NZC-1999/Key-areas-of-learning/Outdoor-Education</a></p> <p><a href="https://health.tki.org.nz/Key-collections/Curriculum-in-action/In-the-Outdoors">https://health.tki.org.nz/Key-collections/Curriculum-in-action/In-the-Outdoors</a></p> <p>Nature and Scope of OE in NZ  <a href="https://www.academia.edu/24470100/The_nature_and_scope_of_outdoor_education_in_New_Zealand_schools">https://www.academia.edu/24470100/The_nature_and_scope_of_outdoor_education_in_New_Zealand_schools</a></p> <p>Article: Outdoor School  <a href="https://gazette.education.govt.nz/articles/learning-and-growing-through-outdoor-education/">https://gazette.education.govt.nz/articles/learning-and-growing-through-outdoor-education/</a></p>
Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-school</li> <li>Community excursions</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not mandatory</li> <li>Reggio Emilia Approach</li> </ul> <p><b>Audiences:</b> Pre-school to 6 YOA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicly funded</li> <li>Fee for service (private)</li> </ul>	<p>The <a href="#">Reggio Emilia Approach</a> values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children’s <i>relationships</i> with other children, teachers, parents and their classroom environment;</li> <li><i>Documentation</i> of the children’s learning as a way to make their thinking and theorizing visible - and convey a strong image of an intelligent child;</li> <li><i>Project work</i>, where children are engaged in explorations of their world, making choices about what they will investigate, and then together with their teachers and peers making meaning;</li> </ul>	<p>Reggio Emilia</p> <p><a href="https://theconversation.com/reggio-emilia-how-a-city-in-italy-started-an-education-trend-25809">https://theconversation.com/reggio-emilia-how-a-city-in-italy-started-an-education-trend-25809</a></p> <p>CNN News Report: Reggio Emilia (video)  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVv5ZL9nlgsReggion">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVv5ZL9nlgsReggion</a></p> <p>Reggio Emilia Approach – La Scuola</p>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The many ways children express themselves, called the “<a href="#">100 Languages</a>” with a strong emphasis on the visual arts; and</li> <li><i>Active listening</i>, where children’s voices, thoughts and opinions are valued (as much as the teachers’).</li> </ul>	<a href="https://www.lascuolasf.org/education/reggio-emilia-approach">https://www.lascuolasf.org/education/reggio-emilia-approach</a>
Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-school</li> <li>Day centres</li> <li>Overnight centres</li> <li>Community exploration</li> <li>Field trips/excursions</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus:</b> All staff at every level of involvement with the education of children and young people have a responsibility to make the most of the outdoor environment to support the delivery of the experiences and outcomes of <i>Curriculum for Excellence</i>.</p> <p><b>Audiences:</b> Primary and Secondary ages</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicly funded</li> <li>Private Funding</li> <li>Fee for service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Curriculum for Excellence through Outdoor Learning</b> is designed to help teachers, educators, Community Learning and Development (CLD) and their partners, including the voluntary sector, plan opportunities for a series of planned, quality outdoor learning experiences to ensure that progressive and sustainable outdoor learning opportunities are embedded in the new curriculum.</li> <li>Looking at opportunities in the delivery of regular, low-cost, cross-curricular outdoor learning and learning for sustainability. Various involving teachers, children, local authorities and government policymakers</li> </ul>	Curriculum for Excellence <a href="https://education.gov.scot/Documents/cfe-through-outdoor-learning.pdf">https://education.gov.scot/Documents/cfe-through-outdoor-learning.pdf</a> University of Edinburgh <a href="https://www.ed.ac.uk/education/rke/making-a-difference/outdoor-learning-and-policy-development-scotland">https://www.ed.ac.uk/education/rke/making-a-difference/outdoor-learning-and-policy-development-scotland</a>
British Columbia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-school</li> <li>Outdoor learning centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Day</li> <li>Overnight</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus:</b> Built into new provincial curriculum Outdoor education as part of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PE curriculum</li> <li>Environmental Learning curriculum</li> <li>in schools/resources for teachers</li> </ul> <p><b>Audiences:</b> Primary and Secondary Ages</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicly funded</li> <li>Fee for service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation in outdoor activities allows for the development of skills in a complex and dynamic environment</li> <li>Spending time outdoors allows us to develop an understanding of the natural environment, ourselves, and others</li> <li>Participating safely in outdoor activities requires communication, teamwork, and collaboration</li> <li>Participation in outdoor activities allows for the development of leadership skills that can be applied in a variety of contexts and environments.</li> </ul>	BC’s New Curriculum <a href="https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/physical-health-education/11/outdoor-education">https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/physical-health-education/11/outdoor-education</a>  <a href="https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/physical-health-education/11/outdoor-education">https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/physical-health-education/11/outdoor-education</a>  Gov’t of BC – environmental learning resources for teachers <a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/teach/teaching-tools/environmental-learning">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/teach/teaching-tools/environmental-learning</a>  CBC article <a href="https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/outdoor-school-salmon-arm-1.4824850">https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/outdoor-school-salmon-arm-1.4824850</a>
California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-school/school grounds</li> <li>in the local community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential outdoor science programs</li> <li>Museums</li> <li>Aquariums</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal to integrate environmental literacy into academic standards,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicly funded</li> <li>Fee for service</li> <li>Grants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognizing that critical environmental concerns face California, the California Environmental Literacy Task Force was created to think deeply about how to build a future for an environment that is sustainable, healthy, prosperous, and equitable.</li> </ul>	California Department of Education – Environmental Education and Environmental Literacy <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/oe/introd.asp">https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/oe/introd.asp</a>  Blueprint for Environmental Literacy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Science centers</li><li>○ Etc.</li></ul>	<p>curriculum, textbooks, professional learning, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Environmental literacy embedded into formal instruction for History-Social Science standards.</li></ul> <p><b>Audiences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• K-12</li><li>• Post secondary</li><li>• Professional</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The resulting report, <i>A Blueprint for Environmental Literacy: Educating Every Student In, About, and For the Environment</i> provides guiding strategies and recommendations to realize the ambitious goal of achieving environmental literacy for all California students.</li><li>• Purpose of the <i>Blueprint</i> is to expand access to environmental literacy and healthy, green learning environments, ensuring availability of high-quality instructional materials, ensuring integration between formal and informal education systems, defining environmental literacy learning outcomes and assessment, cultivating sustainable funding sources, ensuring availability of high-quality educator professional learning, and increasing access to environmental literacy experiences for California's diverse populations</li></ul>	<p><a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/documents/envronliteracyblueprint.pdf">https://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/sc/documents/envronliteracyblueprint.pdf</a></p>
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