

Outdoor Science Toolbox

One challenge that teachers experience when taking groups outdoors is having lesson plan materials prepped and ready to go. It can take time to have all the materials you need for learning and exploring outdoors.

Create a grab & go toolbox for taking learning outdoors. Keep the materials tidy and in a weather-proof Rubbermaid tote that's always ready to go when it's time for learning outdoors!

Your outdoor toolbox may include:

- Paint Swatches (for facilitating a [rainbow chip color search](#))
- Bandanas (for [facilitating games](#) and marking boundaries)
- Egg Cartons (for facilitating the [collecting and sorting](#) of materials found in nature)
- Bug Boxes
- Activity Guide (Back pocket activities, see the [LifeLab resources](#) and [Kids' Garden Activity Cards](#))
- Guidebook (Consider "Plants and Animals of the Pacific Northwest: An Illustrated Guide to the Natural History of Western Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia" by Eugene N. Kozloff)
- Magnifying lenses
- Rulers
- Plastic trowels
- White plastic trays (for looking at bugs & soil, collecting and sorting, testing if things float)
- A white sheet
- Pencils and paper
- Whiteboard and dry erase marker
- String
- Scissors
- Permanent markers

Materials to add with a slightly larger budget:

- Binoculars
- Compass
- Thermometer
- Sweep net (for bugs and butterflies)
- Hats (painter's caps to use as needed for sun protection)

