



Your child's classroom is taking part in a statewide initiative from the Department of Education called Get Wild Wyoming.

Get Wild Wyoming is an outdoor learning initiative. We don't want students climbing up the walls when they get home, so we are tearing down the walls of the classroom so kids can get wild through nature-based education! One of Wyoming's most valuable resources is the rich environment in which we live. Diverse in its landscapes, flora and fauna, climates, and history- our state offers an incredible learning environment for our children to explore. Outdoor Learning is a broad term that includes: outdoor play in the early years, school grounds projects, environmental education, recreational and adventure activities, personal and social development programs, expeditions, team building, leadership training, management development, education for sustainability, adventure therapy ... and more.

Throughout the week (weather permitting) your child's classroom will be taking various lessons (adventures) outside. We are doing this because nature experiences have a special, restorative effect and connecting with sights, sounds, and smells outdoors can generate positive emotions and inspire creativity. Spending time in nature can be a great way to feel better, both mentally and physically.

In outdoor learning participants learn through what they do, through what they encounter and through what they discover. Participants learn about the outdoors, themselves and each other, while also learning outdoor skills. Active learning readily develops the learning skills of inquiry, experiment, feedback, reflection, review and cooperative learning. Not only does outdoor learning happen in the natural environments where participants can see, hear, touch and smell the real thing, it also happens in an arena where actions have real results and consequences. Outdoor learning can help to bring many school subjects alive while also providing experiential opportunities for fulfilling the Early Learning Standards.

For more information contact Amy Reyes, School Support State Early Learning Specialist at 307-777-7708 or amy.reyes@wyo.gov