

Recertification Criteria

The Nature Explore Classroom Certification Program is a national initiative that recognizes schools and community organizations that have made a commitment to providing outdoor classrooms and comprehensive programming to help children use the natural world as an integral part of learning. This program is open to any organization able to meet the following *yearly requirements*:

1. ***Well-designed outdoor space:*** Provide evidence that principles from the Learning With Nature Idea Book are continuing to be used effectively. Provide evidence of annual maintenance of the Nature Explore Classroom.
2. ***Staff development:*** Provide evidence of annual professional development relating to nature education.
3. ***Family Involvement:*** Provide evidence that activities or materials designed to increase family awareness and involvement in nature education for young children are provided on an ongoing basis.

The staff member designated as the Nature Explore Classroom Coordinator will submit the Nature Explore Classroom renewal applications, providing documentation that the above standards have been met.

3 Great Reasons To Recertify your Nature Explore Classroom

1. Receive your official, annual certificate acknowledging your continued commitment to maintaining the high quality standards of your outdoor classroom.
2. Continue to have your Nature Explore Classroom recognized on the Arbor Day Foundation Web site.
3. Be part of a network of schools and organizations sharing effective ideas for connecting children with nature.