



# Nature Play SA Strategic Plan

2025 - 2028

For more than 10 years, Nature Play SA has been a trusted not-for-profit leader delivering community nature experiences, outdoor learning programs for schools and early learning centres and providing ideas and resources for families. We inspire South Australians to connect with nature in ways that enrich wellbeing, foster reconciliation, deepen environmental knowledge and connections, and build lifelong care for the natural environment.

**Our Vision:** Nature connection is an essential part of everyday wellbeing.

**Our Mission:** Inspiring people of all ages and abilities to connect with nature, enhance their wellbeing and nurture a commitment to environmental stewardship and care.

## Our Values

**Connection.** We value the transformative power of connecting with nature to enhance social inclusion, nurture a sense of belonging, and build stronger, more supportive communities.

**Wellbeing.** We know instinctively, and through growing evidence, that nature is essential for wellbeing and we value its role in fostering physical, mental, and emotional health for everyone.

**Country.** We respect and learn from Aboriginal peoples, valuing their deep relationship with Country, and celebrating their ongoing connection and knowledge of this land.

**Play.** We value play and curiosity as essential for personal development, joy, and lifelong learning; encouraging exploration, discovery, and creativity at every stage of life.

**Inclusion.** We value inclusive approaches that ensure everyone feels welcome, respected, and able to participate fully in our shared experiences with nature.

## Strategic Pillars

Community  
Experiences

Outdoor  
Learning

Leadership

Organisational  
Excellence

## Community Experiences

We create nature experiences that promote wellbeing, foster connection with nature, and provide accessible opportunities for play, social connection, and learning. These experiences are tailored for families, vulnerable groups, and disability networks.

### Priorities

- Create inclusive experiences and resources that encourage nature connection habits for all
- Encourage care for nature and Country through memorable and authentic experiences
- Promote the importance of play and time in nature as a wellbeing and physical activity tool

### Measuring our impact

We measure our impact and success through participant feedback, engagement metrics and the growth of our partnerships with councils, governments and for impact organisations.

## Outdoor Learning

We empower children and young people to thrive through evidence-based programs that build educators' confidence and knowledge in outdoor learning. Our work spans all education sectors and regions, from early years to high school.

### Priorities

- Deliver outdoor learning programs that nurture childhood development and help reduce vulnerabilities
- Support teachers and sites to enrich their pedagogy through nature-based practices
- Support research and promote the evidence of nature-based learning for wellbeing and learning outcomes

### Measuring our impact

We measure our impact and success through teacher and student feedback, engagement metrics, student wellbeing and engagement data, resource downloads and research partnerships.

## Leadership

We advocate for the proven benefits of nature in enhancing the health and wellbeing of all South Australians. Through leadership, partnerships and collaboration, we aim to inspire broader recognition of nature's impact on thriving communities.

### Priorities

- Be a trusted voice for the benefits of nature connection across all ages and stages of life
- Champion nature as a holistic wellbeing, environmental and social tool in policy frameworks
- Broaden and strengthen partnerships and storytelling to highlight the impact of nature connection across more sectors including those facing disadvantage

### Measuring our impact

We measure our impact and success through the growth of our partners and networks, the consideration of nature-based practices in policy settings, and increasing awareness of our advocacy role.

## Organisational Excellence

All strategic pillars are underpinned by our commitment to organisational excellence, centred on inclusive and innovative program design, the sustainability of our organisation, and strong governance for long-term success.

### Priorities

- Build financial sustainability with integrity and intent to enable growth and innovation
- Improve systems and risk management to increase efficiency and accountability
- Foster a positive workplace culture by prioritising staff development, wellbeing, and professional recognition of our Board and team



Connection • Wellbeing • Belonging