Time Outdoors Survey
22 Getting it Right for Play: A toolkit to assess and improve local play opportunities

Time Outdoors

Title: The amount of time children and young people are outdoors playing and spending free time with friends

Indicator: The percentage of children and young people aged from birth to 16 years, from all social and ethnic groups, including those who are disabled, who play or spend free time outdoors with friends most days.

Survey Question

1. How often do you play outside (not counting school playtimes)?
   - I play outside most days
   - I play outside a few times a week
   - I hardly ever play outside
   - I don't like playing outside

Data Entry and Analysis

In each of the four spreadsheet columns under “time” enter 1 for item ticked and 0 for items not ticked.

Calculate proportion of children scoring 1 in “most” column.

Analyse according to age group; disability; ethnicity; socio-economic group and compare with Local Authority breakdown of different groups in neighbourhood.

Enter into summary sheet (see section 4)

Data collection method: children’s survey
Children’s satisfaction

**Indicator 2**

**Title:** The level of satisfaction with the play spaces and opportunities available to children and young people while spending free time outdoors.

**Indicator:** The percentage of children and young people aged from birth to 16 years, from all social and ethnic groups, including those who are disabled, who say they can play out in their favourite ways, while feeling safe in their local community.

**Survey Questions**

**3. When I am out playing in my local area**

| I do most of my favourite things | (score 2 points) |
| I do some of my favourite things | (score 1 point) |
| I do hardly any of my favourite things | (score 0 points) |

**5. In your local area, which of these is true?**

| There are lots of my favourite places to play | (score 2 points) |
| There are some of my favourite places to play | (score 1 point) |
| There are hardly any of my favourite places to play | (score 0 points) |

**6. How safe do you feel when out playing in your local area?**

| I usually feel safe | (score 2 points) |
| I sometimes feel safe | (score 1 point) |
| I never feel safe | (score 0 points) |

**Data Entry and Analysis**

In the spreadsheet columns “things”, “places” and “safe” enter the score for each column ie: 2, 1, or 0.

Total for each child should be entered in column “satis”

The percent of children scoring five or six points are counted as meeting the indicator level. For local use, analysis can be undertaken in relation to postcodes, disability, ethnicity, housing type etc.

Enter percentage of children scoring 5 or 6 points into summary sheet (see section 4).
Title: The meaningful involvement of children and young people in the design or delivery of spaces and opportunities for outdoor play and recreation.

Indicator: The percentage of children and young people who say they have been asked about their outdoor play needs and think things have improved.

Survey Questions

9. This question is about whether people from the Local Authority or your neighbourhood have asked you about what you like when you are playing.

Which one of these is true:

- I was asked what I like and now it is better (Score 1 point)
- I was asked what I like but nothing happened (Score 0 points)
- I have never been asked what I like (Score 0 points)
- I don’t know if I have ever been asked (Score 0 points)

The percent of children scoring one point are counted as meeting the indicator level. For local use, analysis can be undertaken in relation to postcodes, disability, ethnicity, housing type etc.

Data Entry and Analysis

In the spreadsheet column “asked” enter 1 if child scored 1, for all other answers enter 0.

Calculate the proportion of children scoring 1.

Enter the result on the summary sheet (see section 4).
Title: Evidence of a risk-benefit approach being taken to allow challenging and exciting play opportunities.

Indicator: The percentage of children saying they can play in exciting daring ways in their community.

This measure forms one part of the evaluation of opportunities for risk and challenge and should be used in conjunction with the Play Space Quality Assessment tool section on risk and risk-benefit assessment.

Data collection method: children’s survey

Survey Questions

7. How exciting is it when you are out playing in your local area?

I can usually play in exciting daring ways (Score 1 point)
I can sometimes play in exciting daring ways (Score 1 point)
I can never play in exciting daring ways (Score 0 points)

The percentage of children scoring one point is counted as meeting the indicator level. For local use, analysis can be undertaken in relation to postcodes, disability, ethnicity, housing type etc.

If a more refined analysis is useful, score 2 for ‘Usually’, 1 for ‘Sometimes’, 0 for ‘Never’.
(This will require changes to be made to the spreadsheet provided)

Data Entry and Analysis

In the spreadsheet column “risk” enter 1 for every child scoring 1 point.

Calculate the percentage of children scoring 1 point.

Enter the results on the summary sheet (see section 4).
Adult attitudes

Title: Adult attitudes to children and young people being outside.

Indicator: The proportion of children and young people who consider adults think it is OK for children to be out in the local area.

Data collection method: children’s survey

Survey Questions

8. What do grown-ups think about children playing out in your local area?

Most grown-ups think it is OK  Score 1 point
Some grown-ups think it is OK  Score 0 points
Hardly any grown-ups think it is OK  Score 0 points

The percentage of children scoring one point is counted as meeting the indicator level. For local use, analysis can be undertaken in relation to postcodes, disability, ethnicity, housing type etc.

If a more refined analysis is useful Score 2 for ‘Usually’, 1 for ‘Sometimes’, 0 for ‘Never’. (This will require changes to be made to the spreadsheet provided)

Data Entry and Analysis

In the spreadsheet column “adult” enter 1 for every child scoring 1 point. For all other answers enter 0.

Calculate the percentage of children scoring 1 point.

Enter the percentage into the summary sheet (see section 4).
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Indicator 7

Title: Adult attitudes to children and young people being outside.

Indicator: The proportion of children and young people who consider adults think it is OK for children to be out in the local area.

Survey Questions

8. What do grown-ups think about children playing out in your local area?

- Most grown-ups think it is OK [Score 1 point]
- Some grown-ups think it is OK [Score 0 points]
- Hardly any grown-ups think it is OK [Score 0 points]

The percentage of children scoring one point is counted as meeting the indicator level. For local use, analysis can be undertaken in relation to postcodes, disability, ethnicity, housing type etc. If a more refined analysis is useful [Score 2 for ‘Usually’, 1 for ‘Sometimes’, 0 for ‘Never’]. (This will require changes to be made to the spreadsheet provided)

Data Entry and Analysis

In the spreadsheet column “adult” enter 1 for every child scoring 1 point. For all other answers enter 0. Calculate the percentage of children scoring 1 point. Enter the percentage into the summary sheet (see section 4).

Data collection method: Children’s survey