

Heading: <b>Education and Early Childhood Development</b>	P.S.# 1304.21	Rev. 7/2004
Policy Name: <b>OUTSIDE PLAY POLICY</b>	Policy # EED 2	Page 1 of 1

## **OUTSIDE PLAY POLICY**

1. Southern Utah University Head Start playgrounds are an extension of the classroom and time outside will be planned as part of the daily curriculum.
2. Children will have outside experience every day unless extreme weather prohibits outside play.
3. Each morning teaching staff will check playgrounds for any hazards before children arrive for Head Start. Children will not be allowed on the playgrounds until the hazard has been removed, repaired or the area has been blocked off to avoid injury.
4. There will be at least one member of the teaching team outside with children at all times. Adults will not just observe, but will participate with children in outside activities.
5. Centers and activities for the outside classroom will be planned with parents during the weekly brainstorming session. Lesson plans will routinely include Core activities for the outdoor classroom.
6. Adults and children will use the last few minutes of each outside time to clean the playground, put away outside toys and bring in center materials, furniture or equipment.
7. Getting ready to go outside on snowy, rainy, cold or windy days is part of the learning experience and the extra time needed to make this a successful transition will be planned and scheduled carefully. Fine motor development occurs as children learn to manage buttons, zippers, boots and mittens.
8. On the few days when appropriate outside time is not possible, teaching staff will plan other energetic, gross motor activities to take the place of outside time. Quiet, non-participatory activities will never replace outside time on the daily schedule.