

When reviewing outdoors, the outdoors provides:

- a breath of fresh air and change of scene that can inspire a refreshingly new approach to learning
- an abundance of visual aids, some of which are 'the real thing' rather than substitutes for it
- a naturally stimulating environment for learning that is more 'brain-friendly' (and arouses more 'intelligences') than the most well equipped indoor classrooms
- space that is useful for more physical reviewing such as action replays, human sculpture, human graphs, or human scales
- privacy for solo reflection
- freedom from fixed or cumbersome furniture – you can move quickly between large group, small group, paired and individual reviewing activities
- opportunities for walking and talking - for paired discussions or for interviewing each other
- sand or soft earth for drawing anything such as a graph for showing ups and downs, a journey towards a goal, a force field, a flow chart, or a learning model
- natural objects and materials that can be collected and arranged as collages or sculptures or maps of a journey
- natural objects that can be arranged and moved to represent the changing group dynamics
- viewpoints from where participants indicate places that evoke thoughts or feelings associated with the experience being reviewed
- opportunities for reflective exercises such as guided reflections or making personal gifts from natural materials
- opportunities for reflective drama inspired by the location or by environmental themes such as life cycles, the food chain, the web of life
- A 'Canterbury Tales' journey where each review topic happens at a different location.
- the opportunity to 'walk through' what happened or perform an action replay
- the opportunity to have a second go, and compare the differences between 'take one' and 'take two'
- 'teachable moments' or 'learning opportunities' which are best caught there and then as they happen.

This is an extract from ...

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Full article/chapter: <http://reviewing.co.uk/articles/facilitating-outdoor-education.htm>

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