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# AUSTIN CHILDREN'S **OUTDOOR** **BILL** *of* **RIGHTS**

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**WHEREAS:** Studies show that children who learn and play in nature are healthier, happier and perform better in school.

**WHEREAS:** Children who have safe access to parks, zoos, nature centers, lakes and rivers, and other public outdoor spaces are more resilient, have higher self-esteem, are more confident, are better problem solvers and are more creative.

**WHEREAS:** All children should feel welcome at all of Austin's parks, pools, trails, waterways and open spaces.

**WHEREAS:** Communities in disadvantaged areas with access to nature benefit from greater health equity with lower rates of mortality and disease.

**WHEREAS:** Children who develop a positive relationship with nature are more likely to become tomorrow's stewards of our natural heritage.

**WHEREAS:** Through its parks, trails, waterways, open spaces, and other natural spaces, Austin provides a wide variety of quality outdoor opportunities.

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**THEREFORE: We support this Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights  
in which every child has the right to:**

**Climb a tree • Catch a fish • Picnic in a park • Hike a trail • Ride a bike  
Splash in the creek or river • Discover plants and wildlife  
Play in the sand and mud • Gaze at the night sky • Chase a firefly  
Plant a seed and watch it grow • Harvest and eat a fruit or vegetable**



Children in Nature  
Collaborative of Austin



**Learn more at [www.austintexas.gov/cccn](http://www.austintexas.gov/cccn)**