

## Outdoor Play at Artemis Young Parent Program

In the Child Care Centre everyone LOVES to be outside – babies, toddlers and Educators. Research has shown that many of the fundamental tasks that children must achieve, such as, exploring, risk-taking, fine and gross motor development and the absorption of vast amounts of basic knowledge, can be most effectively learned through outdoor play. We have a supply of coats, jackets, muddy buddies, boots, and hats provided by the parents and/or stockpiled by the daycare. Whatever weather Mother Nature sends our way...we are prepared.

*There is so much interest in water play that as soon as the hose comes out the children gather around the tap with their buckets in hand. The play opportunities are endless. Whether they are in a group or on their own, being outdoors gives the children the freedom to use the water as they please. It's amazing how absorbed they can become with something as simple as water.*



*Laurie is enjoying the wet sand on her feet as she watches the way the water flows from the hose. Michael is using the shovel while Jade sips water from a bucket. Everyone is engrossed in his or her play while exploring the properties of water.*



*Having a faucet in the sandbox provides great opportunities for sensory play, which is essential for healthy child development.*



*Sand and water are great additions to our outdoor play space letting the babies and toddlers use their bodies and their senses to explore. Everyone loves to be outside!*



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