

# QUICK START KIT: GO OUTSIDE





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY











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# Go Outside. Grow Outside.

Good things happen when we unplug and go outside to play together. Kids and adults benefit from contact with nature as well as unstructured play and exploration.

### **KEY HEALTHY HABITS**

# Protect the Right to Play

More children than ever are involved in scheduled, structured activities. Children benefit greatly from unstructured play as well. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, free play helps children grow and develop toward important intellectual, emotional, and social milestones along their developmental journey toward healthy teen and adult years.

### Introduce Children to Nature

A growing body of research is pointing to the fact that time spent in contact with nature is good for everyone, but that it is particularly important to the healthy development of children. Nature engages all of the senses, helps children to develop curiosity and creativity, reduces stress and fosters a sense of wonder and a desire to explore and learn. Children who spend time in nature are also more likely to develop a lifelong sense of connection to and concern for the environment.

## **FAMILY GOAL EXAMPLES**

Try getting the family together to select one of the following goals or come up with your own. To begin, go for something that is realistic and achievable. In one week, get back together to see how you did and what you learned. Take into account this week's experience, set another goal and keep going. You can do it!

- 1. This week, I will take my children to a park to let them play.
- **2.** This week, we will have a family discussion about priorities.
- 3. This week, we will plant something together.
- **4.** This week, we will do a family nature scavenger hunt.
- **5.** This week, we will take \_\_\_\_ (#) family walks together around the block.

Our own:

Use the Healthy Family Home progress tracker to keep tabs on your goals.







SLEEP WELL	GO OUTSIDE	GET TOGETHER	PLAY EVERY DAY	PICK A NEW HABIT AND FILL IT STAR EACH TIME YOU TRY IT.  FAT HEALTHY OUR GOAL
OUR GOAL	OUR GOAL	OUR GOAL	OURGOAL	PICK A NEW HABIT AND FILL IN A STAR EACH TIME YOU TRY IT.  AT  TEALTHY  OUR GOAL
				SUNDAY
				MONDAY
				TUESDAY
				WEDNESDAY
				THURSDAY
				FRIDAY
				SATURDAY

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