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Exchange *EveryDay*

Your free source of early childhood inspiration and news.

08/15/2022

Californians Can Now Check Out a Free Parks Pass...from the Library!

From our vantage point, nature and a love of learning go hand in hand. If that is fostered in early education... then a child grows to love discovery and exploration and to be curious.

– *Martina Albright, in Exchange Reflections: "[Nurturing Learning with Nature](#)"*

In what could be a model for other states and communities, the "California State Library Parks Pass" is now available in public libraries across California for checkout by library patrons. Once checked out from the library, the pass provides free vehicle day use entry at more than 200 participating state parks, bypassing typical fees of around \$10 a day.

"All Californians should have the opportunity to be outdoors in nature," said California Secretary for Natural Resources [Wade Crowfoot](#). "Yet many of our state's residents live in communities without adequate parks and open space. This innovative new program will enable more Californians to explore our incredible State Parks system, and in the process create more equitable access to nature and the outdoors."

What programs are available in your area to provide more equitable access to natural outdoor settings? Please share in the comments below.

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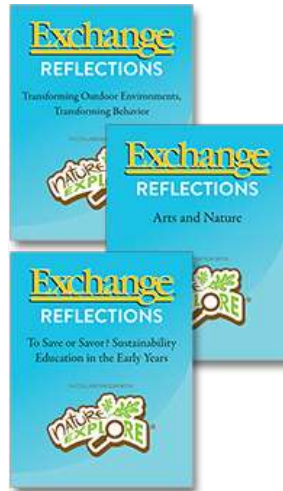
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In collaboration with Nature Explore, Exchange offers several *Exchange Reflections* discussion guides specifically focused on connecting young children and those who care for them with nature.



Here are a few of our most popular titles:

- [Transforming Outdoor Environments, Transforming Behavior](#)
- [Arts and Nature](#)
- [Nurturing Learning with Nature](#)

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