



We are leading a global movement to increase equitable access to nature so that children—and natural places—can thrive. We power this movement by investing in leadership and community capacity through sharing evidence-based resources, scaling innovative solutions and driving policy change.

2017–2020 STRATEGIC AGENDA

Reimagine cities as places of nature connection *for more children where they live.*

A majority of people around the world live in urban areas. This trend will continue to grow. We collaborate with networks of city and community leaders to **rethink the role of cities** and develop scalable solutions that to provide the benefits of nature connection more equitably for children and families.

***Initiatives:** Cities Connecting Children to Nature, Natural Leaders Network, Natural Libraries, Green Schoolyards for Healthy Communities*

Invest in community leadership *to increase nature access.*

To shift an indoor culture toward the benefits of nature, **we train, mentor and convene networks** of diverse young leaders, grassroots organizers and practitioners working at the local, state and national policy and program level. We empower these diverse networks to serve as stewards of and build bridges to the natural world for more children, families and communities.

***Initiatives:** Natural Leaders Network, Grassroots Leaders, International Conference & Leadership Summit*

Improve educational outcomes *through access to nature-based learning.*

A very small percentage of public schools in the U.S. have outdoor green spaces used for educating children. We engage networks of educators and policymakers to **increase nature-based learning and green schoolyards** to help children reach their full academic and social-emotional potential, especially in low-income communities and communities of color.

Initiatives: Green Schoolyards for Healthy Communities, Outdoor Education Legislation

Enhance community health *through increased time spent in nature.*

Nature access (or lack thereof) is a public health issue. We collaborate with networks of education & public health policymakers to reduce health disparities by **creating and promoting use of school-based natural areas** where more children can learn and play, and where families can safely engage in active living, improving the physical and mental health of communities.

Initiatives: Green Schoolyards for Healthy Communities

Strengthen families *through quality time together in nature.*

We know that families who spend time in nature develop strong bonds, better communication and are enjoy spending time together. Through partnerships with large scale family serving organizations, we provide culturally relevant tools and resources designed to break down barriers to **help more families connect to the natural world.**

Initiatives: Natural Families, Natural Leaders Network

Advance the evidence base *to make the case for children and nature.*

To advance the children and nature movement, we must **make a stronger case for nature connection.** We curate and summarize the best scientific evidence, news and thought leadership on children and nature. We invest in networks of researchers to advance the evidence base and collaborate with writers and journalists to educate and inspire action.

Initiatives: Nature-based Learning Research Network, Research Library and Digest, News Center

