A Recipe for a Nature Playscape
A Nature Playscape nurtures creativity and joy, gives opportunities for exploration and discovery, and builds connections to the natural world. It is known that children who engage in nature play on a regular basis will more likely grow up to be happy, healthy, caring and confident Earth citizens.

All-natural ingredients enhance imaginative, fun, nature-inspired experiences.

Serves All Children (+ adults who play too)
Ingredients:
1 Open Outdoor Area
A load of castle-making sand
A pile of digging dirt
1 or more boulders or extra big rocks
An ample supply of moveable materials & found objects
A water source: rainwater runoff, pump or spigot
Additional Enhancements:
Hills, Slides, Slopes, Puddles
Grass to run and roll in
Trees & Shrubbery
Climbing and balancing logs
Seed, plants, and planting places
Wood & Rock Seats and Tables
Shelter and Playhouse
Pathways and Trails
Sit Spots and Hideouts
Mud/Snow Kitchen
1. Wander outside to inventory the playground ‘pantry’ from a child’s-eye view. (Tune into your child-self and/or observe children playing.)
What ingredients are in place? What needs renovating or reviving? What’s expired? What ingredients are lacking?
2. Dream up and draw out a Plan

- Rain Barrel Water Collection
- Slate Board Drawing & Water Paint
- Willow Tunnel
- Balancing Log
- Climbing Rocks
- Sandbox Turtles
- Grassy Hill Slide
- Log Seats & Table
- Children's Garden of Tastes & Scents
- Shade Arbor
- Rutland County Head Start Hickory Street Center Play Yard Rutland, Vermont 2015

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3. Assemble Ingredients
4. Have a work-build party!
5. Add Children
6. Play Outside Every Day!