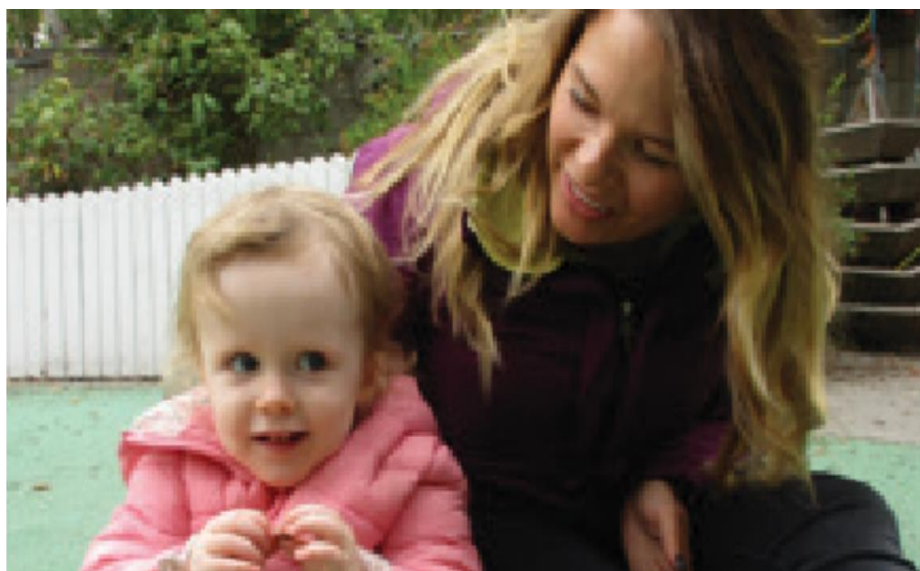


Wind

Brittany Aamot | Fall 2017



Alex and I were sitting together in the playground when several gusts of wind came through the trees. After the initial gust, I noticed Alex had a wide grin and I heard her giggle softly. Another breeze came and went and I asked Alex if she could feel air blowing to which she responded, "wind, ya, wind."

Alex began to stand and turned her body towards the direction of the wind. I noticed her hair began to lift and dance as the wind blew. I commented, "Alex, your hair is blowing in the wind. My hair is blowing too."

I like how that feels." Alex smiled and laughed, "Hair is blowing. Brittany's hair is blowing."

I could hear the trees rustling in the wind before I could feel it. I wondered if Alex was also aware of the correlation. I prompted, "I can hear the leaves moving in the trees. They sound beautiful." Alex cheered, "The leaves are moving ya." Each time the leaves would rustle Alex would cheer, "Wind, the wind." When the breeze reached us Alex would clap her hands and excitedly laugh.



Curriculum Connections

In early learning and care we recognize children develop a sense of wonder and appreciation for the natural world through bringing all their senses to exploring nature. When I noticed Alex's initial giggle, I took pause in wondering what sparked the laughter. I stilled my pace becoming attune to the wind myself.

Under the curriculum goal of Diversity and Social Responsibility, Sustainable Futures, I am reminded that children's affinity to nature, of which they are part, provides a basis for understanding and questioning the place of humankind in nature. Alex seemed curious and excited about feeling the wind blow, as she turned her body towards the direction of the wind, clapped her hands, and cheered. Alex shifted my experience with the wind; an element I often take for granted which felt new again.

Possibilities and Next Steps

In what ways can we create the breeze? My initial thought was using a fan, but I remember in the fitness studio Alex is hesitant to engage with the large fans. Perhaps we can bring in small hand-held fans, ones Alex can control. I also wonder about using scarves and other materials, such as cardboard, to wave and create a breeze. Different sizes and materials could create different sensations.



play participation possibilities



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