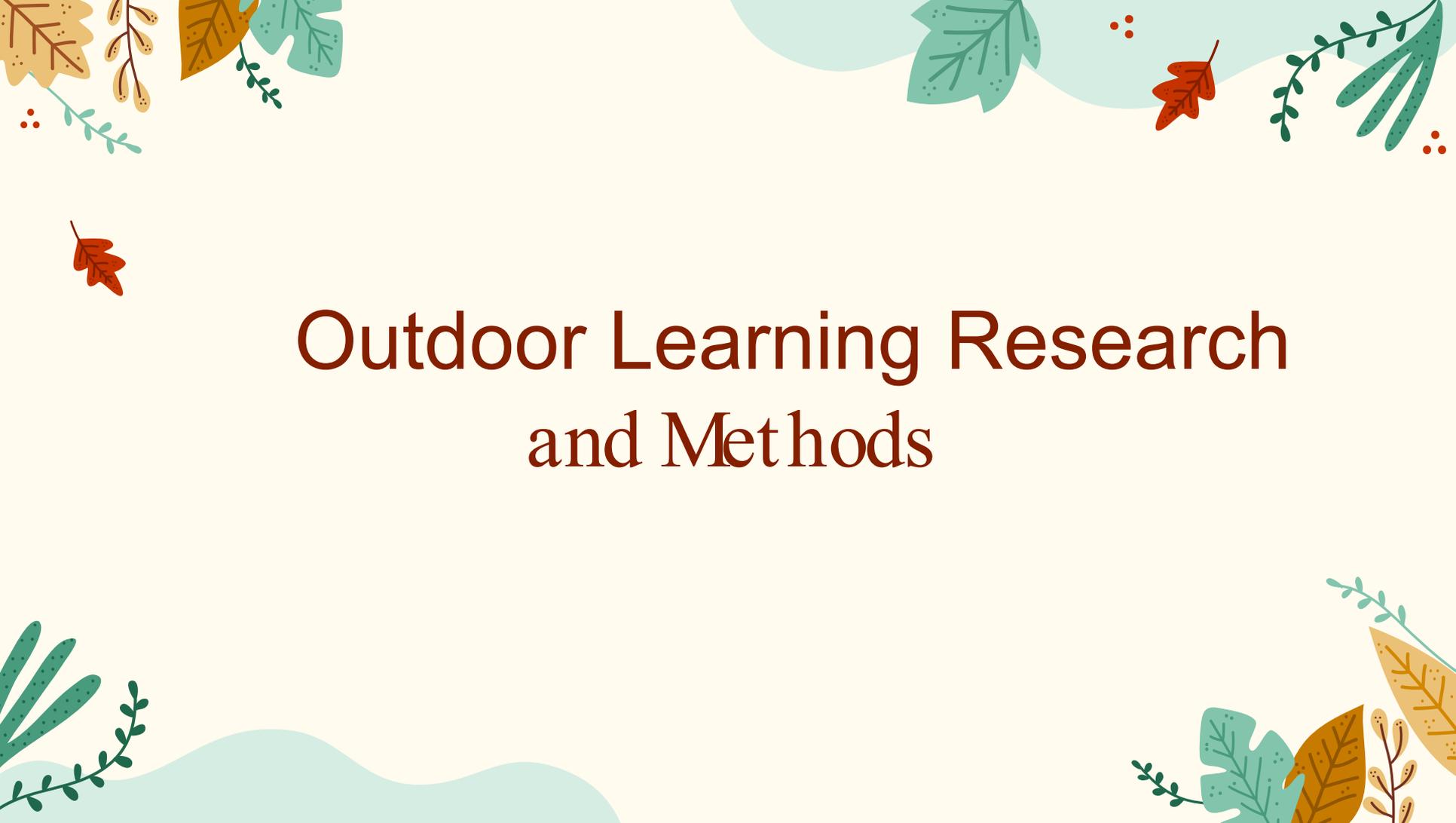




Outdoor Learning in Albuquerque Public Schools

An Efficient Tool for Connecting Many Initiatives



The slide features a decorative border at the top with various leaves and branches in shades of brown, orange, and teal. A light teal wavy shape is also present at the top. The title is centered in a dark brown serif font. The bottom corners also feature decorative leaf and branch illustrations, with a light teal wavy shape at the bottom left.

Outdoor Learning Research and Methods

Research Summary Outdoor Learning Accelerates all Learning Efforts

Kuo et al 2019 Frontiers in Psychology

- SEL
 - Motivation
 - Interpersonal skills
 - Intrapersonal skills
 - Engagement
 - Attention
- Academic Knowledge
- Problem Solving and Motor Skills
- Equity
- Cultural and Linguistic



Outdoor Learning “Tree”

Substitution

No substantial change to the content, just the location where it is delivered.

Augmentation

Content remains unchanged, but the outdoors is used to enhance the lesson.

Student learning growth in all content areas.

Redefinition

The creation of new tasks or lessons in which integration of the outdoors is essential and the best pedagogical choice.

Modification

A lesson and its tasks are redesigned to include the outdoors.

Substitution
Augmentation
Modification
Redefinition

Frequency is more important than duration or complexity

Enhancement

Transformation



“...being outside and being active rather than
[sic] staying inside and being seated.”
Student, SMNHC, 2019



The slide features decorative floral and leaf patterns in the corners. The top-left and bottom-right corners have clusters of leaves in shades of brown, orange, and teal, with small red berries. The top-right and bottom-left corners have teal leaves and stems. The background is a light cream color with soft, wavy teal shapes at the top and bottom.

Signature Academic Field Programs

Ecology Field Program 5th grade

Sandia Mountain Natural History Center (SMNHC)

- Outdoor academic ecology field experience for every 5th grader
- APS partnered with state's natural history museum in the '90s to provide staffing and facility support
- No cost to families



R.I.O. Program 4th grade

(The River is Ours)

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority

- Outdoor, hands-on field experience focused on the Rio Grande's ecological, cultural, & historical connections
- Water Utility Authority provides program to every APS 4th grader
- No cost to families



Communities, Place, & Habitats

3rd grade

Los Padillas Elementary School's Wildlife Sanctuary

- Outdoor field experience focused on community, place, & habitat
- *El Santuario* completed in 1993, led by staff & community with district & legislator support
- No cost to families



The top corners of the page are decorated with various botanical illustrations. On the left, there are clusters of brown and orange leaves, some with small red berries. On the right, there are teal leaves, a single brown leaf, and a branch with small red berries. The background features light teal wavy shapes.

“I like that we got to feel the plants
(gently).”

JZ, A. Montoya Elementary

The bottom corners of the page are decorated with botanical illustrations. On the left, there are teal leaves and a branch with small red berries. On the right, there are brown and orange leaves, a teal leaf, and a branch with small red berries. The background features light teal wavy shapes.

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School Garden Programs

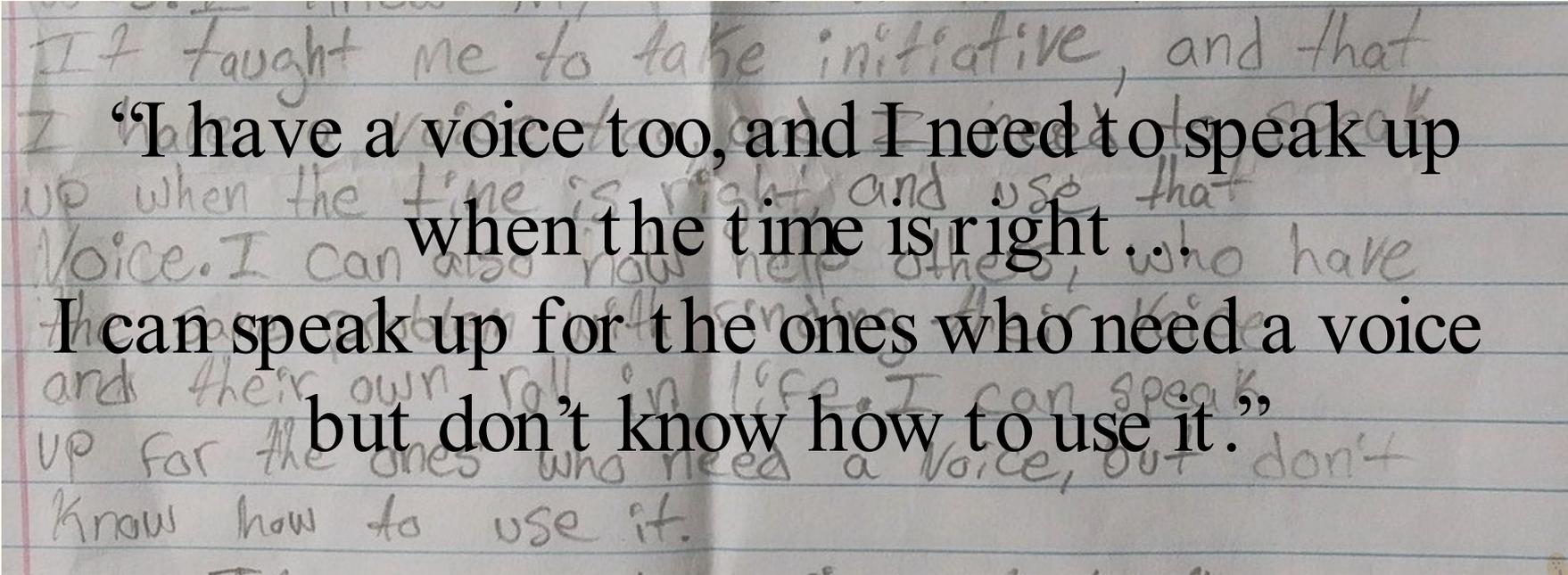
Why gardening



Being outdoors contributes to the social and emotional well-being of students



What does the garden do for youth?



It taught me to take initiative, and that I have a voice too, and I need to speak up when the time is right, and use that voice. I can also now help others, who have the same problem of not knowing how to use their own roll in life. I can speak up for the ones who need a voice, but don't know how to use it.

“I have a voice too, and I need to speak up when the time is right... I can speak up for the ones who need a voice but don't know how to use it.”



Students learn they have a voice and that what they do matters!

The Garden Provides Food and More



“We are a part of something important. We help each other and our community.”
DM-2020



Gardens provide an amazing opportunity for project-based learning and the development of 21st century skills including collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving.



“Being outside and active in fresh air, instead of being locked up in a classroom, helps my brain think better, plus I just feel better overall. I’m more relaxed when I’m outside and learning. I actually have fun learning when I’m outside.”

Student, SMNHHC, 2021

