The California Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights

Jim Hasenauer Ph.D.
International Mountain Bicycling Association
Co-Chair, California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks and Tourism
Member, Governing Board of the Mountains, Recreation and Conservation Authority
imbajim@aol.com
The California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks and Tourism was founded in 1998 to encourage cooperation between public and private entities involved and interested in outdoor recreation, public lands and tourism in California. The Roundtable's membership includes recreation, parks and tourism leaders from local, state and federal governmental organizations, private enterprises, user groups, environmental groups, educational institutions and the public. The Roundtable is affiliated with the nonprofit California State Parks Foundation.

Goals

• To promote and coordinate cooperative efforts between members
• To increase understanding of and support for outdoor recreation
• To address issues of importance to the future of outdoor recreation
• To seek innovative and lasting sources of funding for operations, maintenance, capital outlay and acquisitions
WHAT'S MISSING FROM THIS PARK?

KIDS!
Then

Now
Why a disconnect from nature?

- Immersed in technology
- Time too structured
- Lack of access to natural areas
- Parental fear
Consequences

- Poor health – Childhood obesity and Type 2 Diabetes
- Lack of connection and understanding of natural world
- Increased psychological stress
Physical well-being - HEALTH!
A more well-balanced & less stressed child
The development of intra- and interpersonal skills
Increased cognitive functioning
An increased sense of connection to the natural world ....
Stewardship!
California Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights
“healing the broken bond between our young and nature is in our self-interest...”
The goal of Let's Move Outside is to get kids active so they see physical activity they need not as a chore but as a fun way to explore our country.
What? Every Kid’s Life List

To Encourage Kids To Go Outdoors....

- Make It Memorable
- Make It Fun
- Involve the Family
- Involve All Recreation Providers

Make it Adaptable
Mission:
To Encourage California’s Children to Participate in Outdoor Recreation Activities and Discover Their Heritage

Objective:
That every child in California, by the completion of their 14th year, have the opportunity to experience each of the activities listed within the California Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights.
Play In A Safe Place
Explore Nature
Learn To Swim
Go Fishing
Follow A Trail
Camp Under The Stars
Ride a Bike
Connect With The Past
Plant a Seed
Event in Los Angeles
COBR in Action....
Partnerships in Action...
A Great Resource for YOU
Promote Your Programs
Facilitate collaborations among private, public, and non-profit sectors committed to the children-in-nature cause
COBR Implementation

- Develop regional web-based directory of opportunities
- Gain private industry support – retailer incentives
- Identify one community group/agency responsible for each activity
- Designate one weekend per month for each activity or all 10 in one weekend
- Community/staff sessions brainstorm achievement of each activity
- Family events, library distribution, free fishing day, community campout…
Potential Partnerships

- Public health department
- Private health providers
- Retailers
- Grocery stores
- Foster grandparents
- Conservation corps
- Community service – high schools