

Seminar
Thursday
12th May
4.30-6.30pm

**Forests, Wilderness
& the Junkyard: 'Nature' &
some cultural geographies
of Modern Childhood**

Do children need contact with the natural world? If so why do we think that? This paper offers a response to popular concerns about the condition of childhood & particularly the claim that children suffer through alienation from the natural world. It argues for a re-evaluation of ways of seeing childhood & children's lives & moves beyond Eurocentric idealisations rooted in Romantic notions of wilderness that naturalise childhood on the one hand & the shortcomings of social constructionist arguments on the other. Seeing childhoods as a plurality of nature/culture hybrids offers a more meaningful basis for understanding the lives of biologically immature humans that recognises children & young people's experience as social actors and has implications for the institutions we expect them to inhabit.

*The paper will be followed by
discussion & exploration of
opportunities for collaboration.*

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& Rita White

Senior Lecturer, Kingston

**Kingston
University,
Kingston Hill Campus**

Room KH NC—Flexible Learning Space

In the LRC, (behind Starbucks)

**Email to confirm
attendance:**

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LERNS aims to bring
together educators &
researchers with an
interest in understanding
and promoting social justice
in education. All are
welcome to join the
discussion & find new
collaborators



LERNS

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