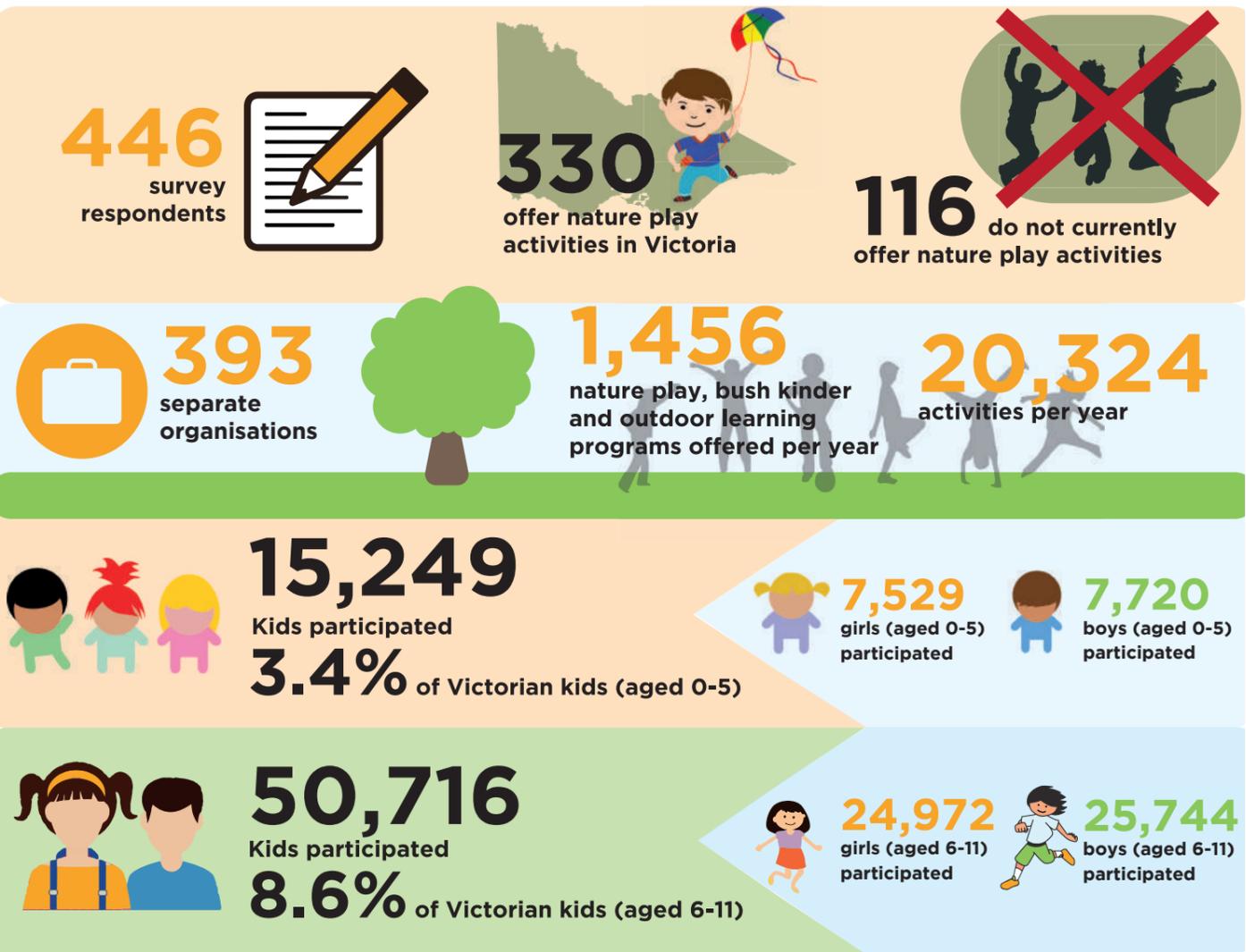


# The State of Nature Play Outdoor Learning and Bush Kinder in Victoria.



## Key findings

This report identifies a growing and unmet demand for nature play, outdoor learning and bush kinder programs in Victoria.

- At least 330 groups run nature play, outdoor learning and bush kinder programs, but they face key barriers.
- At least 116 organisations want to lead programs, but they cannot deliver because they face a range of barriers.
- By addressing key barriers and investing in key enablers, as identified in this report, programs and participation rates could be increased by at least 25%.
- Participation in nature play, outdoor learning and bushkinder across Victoria is low, with 3.4% of kids aged 0-5 participating and 8.6% of kids aged 6-11 participating, but the potential to grow is significant.
- The majority of programs in Victoria have been running between one to five years (45%), with a strong indication that the sector is growing rapidly: 28% of programs have been running for a year or less.
- There is inequity in the distribution of programs and the availability of opportunities for children to participate in nature play, outdoor learning and bush kinder across Victoria.
- In current programs offered, the access and inclusion of kids with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander backgrounds, CALD backgrounds, kids with a disability or kids with disadvantaged backgrounds is relatively high.
- In areas where programs are offered they offer significant opportunity for job creation and volunteering.
- A stronger, sustainable sector will deliver proven health and wellbeing benefits for Victorian children of all backgrounds and abilities and their families, and will help improve education and biodiversity outcomes as well as regional jobs and training opportunities.

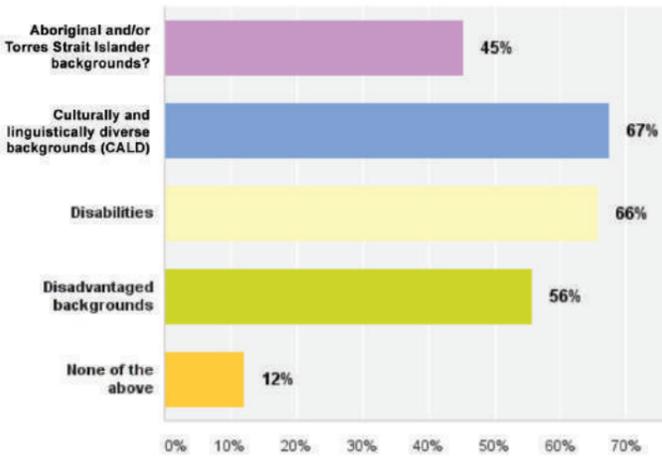
## Recommendations

1. Nature Play Hub: Invest in people, capacity and partners. Support existing networks and collaborative impact model, local facilitators and training.
2. Nature Play Hub Online Interactive: Invest in an online map with nature play and outdoor learning information, locations, support, training opportunities and events.
3. Green Spaces hub: protecting, restoring and increasing public green space.
4. Creating pathways to school and community learning.
5. Small grants program for local community programs, training and equipment.
6. Research to measure impact of interventions on kids and youth.

## More information

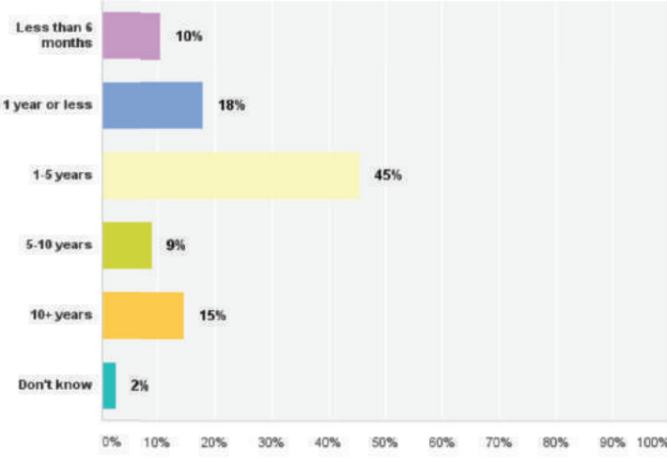
This infographic is based on the following publication: Kids In Nature Network (2018), The State of Nature Play, Bush Kinder and Outdoor Learning in Victoria. Summary of Key Findings and Recommendations, November 2018. For the full report and more information, visit [www.kidsinnaturenetwork.org.au](http://www.kidsinnaturenetwork.org.au) or contact [info@kidsinnaturenetwork.org.au](mailto:info@kidsinnaturenetwork.org.au)

### Access and diversity



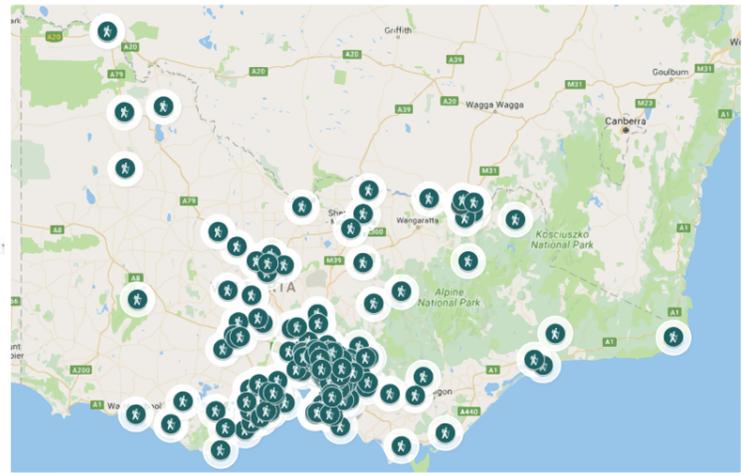
% of services responding have enrolled children from those groups

### Age of programs



In number of years program has been running

### Locations used for nature play activities in Victoria by suburb



### Locations used for nature play activities in Greater Melbourne by suburb

