2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT

Texas Children in Nature Network



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<u>ABOUT TCINN</u>

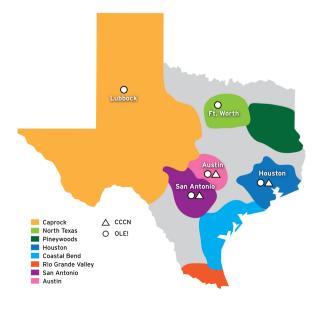
We strengthen and leverage the work of over 600 state and local partners across Texas, working in the health, community development, education, and conservation fields. With our partners we work towards creating equitable access and connection to nature for children in Texas. Through our partner programming and projects TCiN engaged over 4 million families in Texas during 2019.

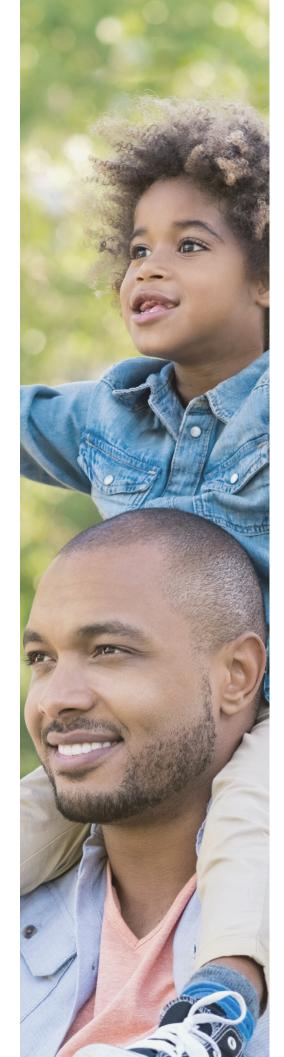
The Texas Children in Nature Network is part of the Children and Nature Network. C&NN supports the children in nature movement through the sharing of resources, such as their research library, and staff support to TCiN. Through our work with C&NN we are able to make a lasting impact in the lives of the over 7 million children living in Texas. With our partners TCiN has created the strongest nature collaborative in the nation.

<u>ACCOMPLISHMENTS</u>

In the last 10 years we have accomplished the following:

- Increasing nature-based opportunities for millions of Texas children
- Building relationships with more than 600 partner organizations across the state
- New 2021 Strategic Plan
- Seven Strategic Area calls for partners from across the state
- Helping establish and guide eight regional collaboratives across the state: in the Caprock region, North Texas, Austin, San Antonio, the Pinewoods region, Houston, the Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Valley





MAJOR PROJECTS

CITIES CONNECTING CHILDREN TO NATURE

This initiative is led by the National League of Cities and the Children & Nature Network. CCCN helps city leaders and their partners ensure all children have access to nature. TCiN works with CCCN cities through serving as a convener with government and non-profit partners.





OUTDOOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

OLE! Texas transforms early childhood spaces through research inspired landscape designs to increase physical activity and connection with the natural world. TCiN works with OLE! Texas to convene stakeholders and facilitate professional developments for teachers. TCiN currently helps support five pilot cities: Austin, Fort Worth, Houston, Lubbock and San Antonio.

WORKSHOPS AND WEBINARS

TCiN is sharing best practices and resources with partners and teachers through our series of webinars and workshops. Monthly webinars cover topics such as equity in the outdoors and public health with experts in the field. Teacher workshops are offered throughout the year to help teachers transition to teaching more in the nature spaces on their campuses.





TCIN STORIES PROJECT

TCiN is collecting stories of how people in Texas are connecting with nature. This project elevates our equity work by engaging communities to learn their story of connecting with nature. TCiN will use these stories to make the case for more access to nature in the state.

NATURE ROCKS TEXAS

TCiN promotes nature exploration at all levels, especially nature close to home. Nature Rocks Texas is a suite of 8 websites designed to help families play, explore, and connect with nature in their communities. Check out <u>naturerockstexas.org</u> to find nature near you.

