



Last Child in the Woods Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder

By Richard Louv

Algonquin Books. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 390 pages. Dimensions: 8.4in. x 5.4in. x 1.0in. I like to play indoors better cause that's where all the electrical outlets are, reports a fourth-grader. Never before in history have children been so plugged in and so out of touch with the natural world. In this groundbreaking new work, child advocacy expert Richard Louv directly links the lack of nature in the lives of today's wired generation to nature deficit. Some of the most disturbing childhood trends, such as rises in obesity, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), and depression. Some startling facts: By the 1990s the radius around the home where children were allowed to roam on their own had shrunk to a ninth of what it had been in 1970. Today, average eight-year-olds are better able to identify cartoon characters than native species, such as beetles and oak trees, in their own community. The rate at which doctors prescribe antidepressants to children has doubled in the last five years, and recent studies show that too much computer use spells trouble for the developing mind. Nature-deficit disorder is not a medical condition; it is a description of the human costs of alienation from nature. This...

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