



Diona Reese Williams

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One Line Biography

Diona Reese Williams is an Early Childhood Educator professor, independent children's book author, and the owner of Out Back Learning, LCC – southern Arizona's first outdoor home-based part-time nature preschool.

Longer Biography

Diona Reese Williams has not only witnessed the game changing reality of nature-based learning but she is also a game changer herself in the field of nature-based early childhood education.

In 2018, Diona first witnessed that game changing reality of nature-based learning when she implemented the ideas and knowledge shared with her after attending Prescott College's Nature and Place-based Early Learning Summer Institute. Diona was inspired. Diona knew what was next.

Diona founded Out Back Learning, LLC in 2019 and opened the doors of southern Arizona's first outdoor home-based part-time nature preschool. Out Back Learning was finding its feet when the pandemic presented its own game changing reality. Diona chose to pause Out Back Learning as a preschool and redirect her deep commitment to inclusive nature-based learning. During this redirection, she started a podcast centering her perspective of being Black In Nature and the unique perspectives of fellow nature-based educators. Then in April 2022, Diona -- with her team! -- self-published Sweet Potato and Mud Pies. Almost exactly a year later, in April 2023, Diona self-published Picture Day.

In tandem with her education entrepreneurial journey, Diona fosters connections with educators and aspiring educators as an Early Childhood Education professor at [Tohono O'odham Community College](#) and an adjunct faculty at Antioch University New England.

Diona regularly reminds herself of how blessed her journey has been so far. The support of her family and pets (including the City Chicks!) has brought meaning to her journey as an education entrepreneur. She invites those who are inspired to reach out to her with their game changing realities and education entrepreneurial journeys.