

MAY HALF TERM SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Friday 22nd May 2020

Dear Parents,

We all hope that you are all as well as you can be during these continued unusual times.

The week beginning Monday 25th May is half term week. However, it is extremely easy to forget this as the weeks seem to merge into each other.

We are not sending out our usual Home Learning activities for this week as we thought that it would be beneficial for both children and parents to have a week off from the "new norm." Therefore, we have put some very open-ended ideas together, like we did for the Easter holiday, for you all to "dip into" as you wish.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Home Learning. We are seeing some wonderful work uploaded to Class Dojo. **However, we are not requesting for anything to be uploaded to Class Dojo for half term week.**

But, if your child produces anything that they are especially proud of or are keen to share with their teachers, then please do share it on Class Dojo as the teachers will be looking at work **after half term.**

Reception parents are of course welcome to keep uploading pictures to Evidence Me (their version of Class Dojo) to be looked at by Mrs Bennet after half term.

We would like to draw your attention to the School website where you will find lots of ideas and open-ended suggestions under the heading of:

[Additional Support for Home Learning pdf](#) (some of you may have seen it already)

There is a separate list of ideas for each class. Please go to the year group for your child(ren) to find this especially useful document full of amazing suggestions.

In addition to this there are some more ideas below.

On behalf of us all, we hope that you have a lovely half term and that the weather is kind to us all.

Stay safe and well.

Very best wishes,

Preshute Staff.

Half Term Suggested Activities/Ideas (some are borrowed from the pdf mentioned above)

Have a look at the National Trust's 50 things to do before you're 11 3/4 list?

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/50-things-to-do-before-youre-11-3-4-activity-list>

(Some of the activities won't be possible with the current social distancing rules, but a lot of them are.)

Some great ideas for football fans can be found here:

<https://www.nationalfootballmuseum.com/communities/stayathome/>

Some lovely ideas about “playing” <https://www.gosh.org/power-of-play>

Horrible Histories are always fun <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/shows/horrible-histories>

Here are Art Ninja ideas https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCytynWIABGhkN_BboM5mHBg

More art ideas : <https://www.messylittlemonster.com/>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/home-key-stage-1-subjects/art-and-design/art-and-design-famous-artists>

This site has many ideas for different scavenger hunts.

<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/parenting/g32050844/scavenger-hunt-ideas-for-kids/>

Listen to stories <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

listen to a selection of historical events <https://historystorytime.podbean.com/>

Den building ideas <https://www.designboom.com/design/ikea-furniture-forts-05-14-2020/>

For some sporty ideas:

<https://www.youthsporttrust.org/60-second-physical-activity-challenges>

<https://www.youthsporttrust.org/pe-home-learning>

Ready, Steady Cook

1. Try making Rainbow pizzas using the recipe on [this website](#).
2. How many different colours can you add to your pizza?
3. Don't forget to practise fractions when cutting your slices!

What makes a hero super?

Find out about how artists and authors create superhero characters [with the British Library](#). Then, decide what makes your own hero super and make them using just pens, paper, glue and scissors.

Super Action Comic Maker

Once you've created a superhero, why not design your own comic strip. Choose your heroes and villains and use speech bubbles to give them a voice. Save your new comic strip and upload it to Culture Street's Gallery for other children to read and enjoy!

#MyDearNewFriend

This fabulous new project supported by The National Literacy Trust encourages children to write letters to people living in care homes. Click on the link above to find out how you can take part.

General ideas.

Many families have gardens to enjoy during the lockdown, but many others do not. Here is a list of fun nature activities you can do inside or in the garden.

Stargazing

With less planes and less light pollution resulting in clearer skies, the lockdown provides a great opportunity to stargaze. It's easy, too. All you have to do is look up at night! What can you see? The moon, planets, constellations, a shooting star? If you've got binoculars or a telescope, now's the time to dust them off.

The National Trust has some [great tips for stargazing](#).

Bird watching

Watch the birds from your garden or out of a window. Watch them fly and sing to each other. How many can you spot? Can you name the type of bird? Think about keeping a bird watching diary to keep track of the birds you've seen, where and when. Try not to not scare them off!

Can you spot the birds on this Wildlife Watch [activity sheet](#)?

Treasure hunt

Treasure hunts are great fun, inside or out. You just need to use your imagination. Here's some ideas to get your little ones hunting!

Try to find:

- Something the same colour as your shoes
- Something for every colour of the rainbow
- Something smooth
- Something as thick as your thumb
- Something that starts with the first letter of your name

You could also try this [Spring nature treasure hunt](#) from Wildlife Watch.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007qgm3/episodes/guide>

Go camping

Have a camping adventure by pitching a tent in your garden, or front room. If you're in your garden, keep an eye out for animals and see if you can hear anything! If you're camping inside, collect all your soft animal toys, put on a nature documentary and watch it from your tent.

Go cloud watching

Look to the sky again, but this time in the day, and look for shapes in the clouds. What shapes do you see? Can you tell a story about the shapes of the clouds? This can be done looking out a window, or while lying on your back in the garden. Another good chance to get those binoculars out!

Painting stones

Grab some stones and make them pretty! You can do some fun patterns, turn them into animals, or you could give them faces and names. You don't need any special paints, just some normal child-friendly paint.

Nature sketching

Grab some paper and pencil and draw something that interests you. If you're in the garden, look out for flowers or feathers that you can study up close. If you're looking out the window, have a go at drawing a tree or a bird.

Leaf pictures

Grab some different sized leaves from your garden - or from your nearest green space - and create some pictures out of them. All you need is paper, glue, leaves, and pens for decorating.

Have a picnic

Roll out the picnic rug (blankets and pillows work just as well!) and enjoy a relaxing picnic as a whole family. You could even try one of these other activities at the same time - like nature sketching. If you're outside and it's hot, remember your sun cream.

Watch a sunset

Find a comfortable spot - in your garden or by a window - and watch the sun slowly set. Watch the colours change from yellow, to orange, to red. Make sure you look up what time it sets in advance, so you're all ready.

Some games to play outside:

- **Kick the Can.** In this childhood classic, the goal is to kick an object (in this case, a ball) placed in the middle of a yard. The ball is protected by a guard, who tries to tag anybody approaching the ball before it's reached. If the guard succeeds in tagging everyone before anyone can kick the ball, he's the winner! If someone is able to out-manoeuvre the guard and kick the ball, however, she wins the game and becomes the new guard for the next round.
- **Ball Tag.** Switch up a classic game of tag by requiring kids to "tag" one another with balls instead of hands. Be sure to use a ball that won't hurt when thrown at running players, and make a rule that nobody is to aim above the shoulders to avoid potential injuries. For even more of a twist, allow multiple kids to be "it" and give each one a ball to tag out the others.
- **Dizzy Kickball.** Make a game of kickball more challenging (and fun) by adding a rule that all players have to spin three times before kicking or throwing a ball. Once everyone is overcome by the dizziness that ensues, try changing the rule from spinning three times to hopping on one foot, performing jumping jacks, or striking a rock star pose.
- **500.** It's all about the points in this fast-paced ball game. To begin, everyone stands in a large circle around the person holding the ball, also known as the thrower. As the thrower tosses the ball into the air, he calls out a number from 50 to 500. That number then becomes the number of points available to the person who catches the ball, or the number of points a person who tries to catch the ball but drops it stands to lose for the miss. At the end of the game, the player with the most points wins!
- **Hot Potato Hide-and-Seek.** In this twist on the classic children's game, the person searching for the others holds a ball while she searches for a set time limit. Whenever she finds

someone new, the new person receives the ball, and it then becomes his job to find the next person hiding. The goal of the game is not to be the person holding the ball when time runs out, since whoever ends up with the ball becomes the new seeker for the next round!

- **Bowling Pins.** Strike! In this human bowling game, one person acts as the "bowler" while everyone else assembles across the lawn in a standard pin formation. Using a ball that can be easily rolled across the grass, the bowler aims to knock out each human "pin" with the goal of knocking down everyone in several tries. Depending on the number of tries allowed and how closely together the "pins" stand, the bowler can raise or lower the difficulty level as he pleases.
- **Battleship.** To set up this game, players divide into two teams on opposite sides of a partition—this could be a tall fence, row of trees, or any divider that ensures that the two teams can't see one another well. Everyone from each team lies down on either side of the wall in a roughly rectangular area of space, save for one kid chosen to be the team bomber. The bomber's job is to try and throw balls over the wall and hit the "battleships"—team members lying down on the other side (use softer balls like beach balls to avoid damage). As soon as a battleship is hit, he becomes a bomber as well. The game continues until all the battleships have been knocked out! For a challenging twist that picks up the pace, play with two or more balls for each side.
- **Keep the Ball.** This simple summer game is an adolescent favourite in Mexico that's easily adaptable to any yard and number of players. To begin the game, players divide into two teams and determine the time limit of the game. The game begins when a player throws the ball in the air, and from then on out each team has to try to keep possession of the ball. The ball may be passed between players but can't be immediately passed back to a person who passed it to you. When time runs out, the team holding the ball wins!