

# The Hive's Children's University Summer Challenges 2025

## Get Close to Nature Challenges



### Pawprint Challenge

#### The Very Hungry Caterpillar™ Challenge

The themes of Eric Carle's stories are usually drawn from his extensive knowledge and love of nature - an interest shared by most small children. Besides being beautiful and entertaining, his books always offer the child the opportunity to learn something about the world around them.

Now Pawprint and Children's University have teamed up to bring you 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar Challenge', which is designed to inspire children to get creative, express themselves and let their imaginations soar.

Through 40+ activity ideas, children can explore their environment, developing curiosity and a love for nature which is one of the most common themes in Eric Carle's stories. Let's explore, grow and learn with The Very Hungry Caterpillar!

**2 credits**



Categories:

Outdoor learning, Nature & the environment  
Online Skills Problem Solving and Teamwork

**The Big Butterfly Count returns from 18 July - 10 August 2025 Butterfly Count**

[Download our handy identification chart to help you work out which butterflies you have seen.](#)

Counting butterflies can be described as taking the pulse of nature and we depend on you, our citizen scientists, to help us assess how much help nature needs.

The data from this and other counts will also help us to identify important trends in species that will assist us in planning how to protect butterflies from extinction, as well as understanding the effect of climate change on wildlife.

How to take part:

<https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/>

Categories:

Outdoor learning, Nature & the environment  
Skills Problem Solving

**2 credits**



### 30 Days Wild Challenge

All things wild and wonderful! Join in with 30 Days Wild, the UK's biggest nature challenge! Get stuck into a nature-filled adventure with Pawprint Family and The Wildlife Trusts.

[https://pawprintfamily.com/images/products\\_pdf/3750.pdf](https://pawprintfamily.com/images/products_pdf/3750.pdf)

# 30 Days Wild!



# The Hive's Children's University Summer Challenges 2025

## Get Creative Challenges



### Summer Reading Challenge 2025

The Summer Reading Challenge 2025 'Story Garden' Takes Reading to the Great Outdoors. This exciting new theme will inspire children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature.

The annual Summer Reading Challenge is delivered in partnership with public libraries across the UK, and it's free for children to take part. Throughout the summer, children joining 'Story Garden' can discover new books, participate in free activities at their local library, and explore the link between reading and the great outdoors, where nature and imagination come together.

Katya Balen, Chris Packham and Hamza Yassin feature on this year's 'Story Garden' Summer Reading Challenge Book Collection

The Summer Reading Challenge, delivered in partnership with public libraries across the UK, is back for 2025! Launching in June.

**Minimum 1 Credit. Maximum 11 credit awarded**

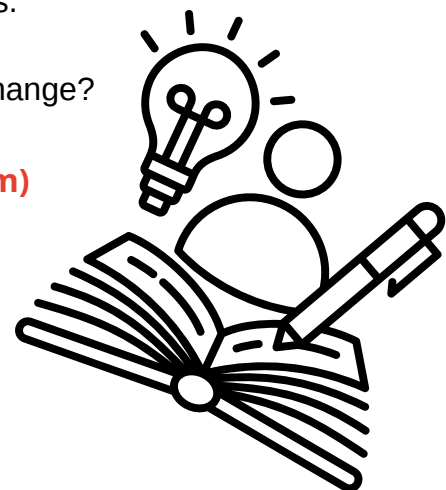
### Here is our challenge to young people over 11 years from Skills Builder

Think of a favourite story, film or TV programme you have enjoyed recently with a family member. Can you create another character who would fit into the story.

Write, draw or tell the person/people you enjoyed it with about your ideas.

What would the new character's role be in the story or would the story change?

**1 credit per new character (only one new character per book/film)**





# The Hive's Children's University Summer Challenges 2025

## Get Creative Challenges

### Be a Researcher

Ages 5 - 16

Try one of our popular Challenges from 2019

**Category: Literacy**

**Skills: Aiming High and Creativity**

Head to your local library and find a non-fiction book that interests you – it could be about :

- history
- nature
- science
- design

Pick something that sparks your interest and makes you want to learn more.

Take notes while you read your non-fiction book.

Then, use your imagination to make the information into an exciting comic book story (that still has all the correct facts!)

2 credits

or

Find out about one sports person who inspires you. This could be a professional athlete, a local sporting hero, a friend or family member or your sports coach. Anyone who loves sport and inspires you! Make a fact file on this person. Find out about their sporting life, what inspires them to play their sport, how they got into their sport in the first place, and what they did to get where they are today. Why not send them a letter to tell them why they inspire you?

2 credits



### Be a Historian

Ages 5 - 16

**Category: History & Heritage**

**Skills: Aiming High and Creativity**

Visit a museum, castle, or any place that has an interesting past

Write about what you found interesting.

You could find some books in the library that tell you more about the people or things you learned about.

OR

Make a model of the building, object or make a costume.

OR

Draw a picture of what it may have looked like in the past.

If you are looking for inspiration English Heritage have some great videos plus some step by step guides in their 'Historical things to make and do' section

[https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/members-area/kids/kids\\_videos/](https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/members-area/kids/kids_videos/)

1 credit for each activity



# The Hive's Children's University Summer Challenges 2025

## Get Cooking Challenges

### The Hive Store Cupboard Challenge.

With the support of your family, take a look at what you have in your food cupboards and design a meal based around what you have at home!

Make a list of your ingredients and design a recipe of your own!

Write a review of your recipe and add in any changes you think you may try next time, add a photo and send it to us

categories. Practical Life Skills

Skills: Problem Solving, Team Work and Creativity

1 credit



### Kitchen Games - Coloured Water - magic with vegetables (cooking)

The videos in Kitchen Games are short: between 2 and 12 mins, with an average of about 8 mins. Children can watch on their own and then if they want to try a particular activity they might get a little help from their parents (according to age). Moving on from one idea to another, they will learn many skills and an understanding of some basic cookery. There are no long lists of ingredients; everything is easily available and no extensive equipment is required. There are no actual recipes. The method is clearly explained and there is an opportunity for creativity, in substituting different ingredients, or making a smaller or larger amount. The tone of the channel is designed not so much to 'teach' but for me to share my lifetime knowledge of food and cookery in a welcoming way.

[Watch Coloured Water here](#)

Also, why not try 'Kitchen Games - Frog Melon (cooking)' too, A bit of fun to do with or for the children. Learn how to cut a melon into a hungry frog. There's no recipe; just watch the instructions and you'll see how it's done. But take care with the knives!!

♥ [\*\(Suggestion from The Hive - Did you know a set of safe children's cutting knives can be bought for under £7, they are fully washable and reusable. We have tried and tested them!\)\*](#)

[Watch 'Frog Melon' here](#)

Categories: Family learning, Online, Practical life skills

Skills: Listening Speaking Creativity



0.5 credits per activity



# The Hive's Children's University Summer Challenges 2025

## Get Active Challenges

### CU Learning Provider:

#### Active Leaders

Category : Sports and physical

Skills: Problem Solving, Creativity & Leadership

<https://www.activeleaders.co.uk/games-and-challenges/>

Ages 5 - 16

Get active!



Complete Four challenges from Active Leaders! There are plenty to choose from.

Write about which one was your favourite and why. Go to their website and find a challenge you would like to take part in.

2.5 Credits awarded when 4 challenges and a write up are completed



#### Blue Peter Sports Badge

Categories: Arts, Culture and Music, History and Heritage

Skills: Creativity and Speaking

Want to get your hands on the amazing Blue Peter Sport badge, designed by football legend Leah Williamson? Of course, you do! Try a new sport, tell Blue Peter about your experience and answer their sporty questions. Then send a photo, video or some artwork showing them how you got involved with your new sport and apply for your awesome new Sport badge.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/blue-peter-apply-for-the-leah-williamson-sport-badge>

Credits: 1

### CU Learning Provider: Pawprint Badges

#### Park Challenge

Ages 5 - 16

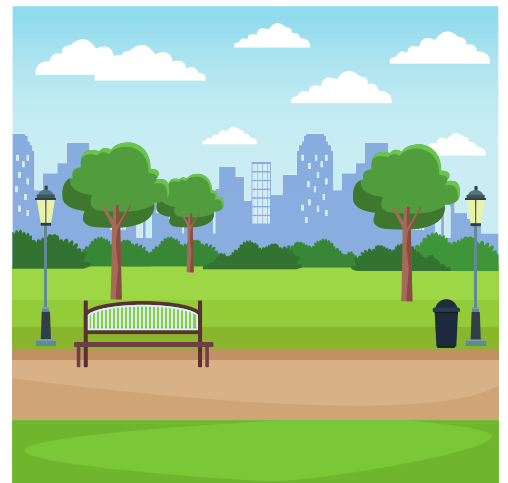
Ready for an outdoor adventure?

We're heading to the park! There is estimated to be more than 27,000 parks in the UK and this challenge pack is all about making the most of your local green space.

<https://pawprintfamily.com/product/park/>

Skills: Team Work

Credits: 1



# The Hive's Children's University Summer Challenges 2025

## Explore

Outdoor learning, Science, technology, engineering and maths  
Nature and the environment Practical life skills

### Know exactly where

what3words

I spy with my little eye, something that can be found at ...../,,,,,,/,,,,,  
The next time you are going out on a family trip, ask an adult to download the  
What3Words App on their phone and then have some fun!

How many things from the list below did you spot on your walk? Use the what3words app to  
write down the 'What 3 words' to show exactly where you found each thing. Remember, a  
what3words address can be used to find any 3m x 3m square in the world

Yellow Flower

leaf clover

bird's feather

15cm stick

Animal

Green car

Butterfly

Wooden bench

I also found .....



WHERE AM I?

///fence.gross.bats

///bumps.snuck.neon

///bride.coins.occurs

///cloud.grabs.clots

Skills  
Problem solving Creativity  
Teamwork



Credits: 1



# The Hive Children's University Summer Challenges 2025

## Your Personal challenges

Categories: Mental health and well-being & Practical life skills

Skills: Staying Positive

### Keep a Summer Holiday Journal

You could Start your journal by creating a happy list. Spend just 5 minutes writing down as many things as you can that make you smile and feel good when you think of them. This could be anything from your favourite food, music or place to visit, a special family member or pet, or watching your favourite footballer score a goal! Discuss your list with others in your household. What would they put on their happy list?



Here are a few ideas:



Learn a new skill and write about why and how you achieved it

Write a film review

Write a book review



Write about places you enjoyed visiting and send us a recommendation for it to become a CU Learning Provider

Keep a weather diary and make a weather chart.



Make some greetings cards for friends and family and write about what inspired you



Write about something you did that was nice for someone else today. It could be a simple thing like clearing the table after dinner, reading a younger sibling a story or offering to sort the recycling. How did this good deed make the other person feel? How did it make you feel?



1 credit per entry

# Summer Challenges 2025

## Record sheet

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_






Parents/Carers please keep a record of any challenges completed and email it together with photo evidence (Children do not have to be in photos)

We will email a certificate with the codes and credits

**Email [Istout@thehive-croydon.org](mailto:Istout@thehive-croydon.org)**