

THE HIVE'S CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY CLUB

SPRING 2026



NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT



Contact With Nature

CU Learning Provider: Forestry England

Although designed for forests, these sheets can be completed in any outdoor space where there are trees. Some of the activities can be completed back inside when you have finished exploring.

Nature connectedness

Having a deeper connection to nature has been shown to be great for our health and wellbeing. Research has revealed that we can increase our connection through five pathways:

1. Sensory contact with the natural world.
2. Finding an emotional bond with, and love for, nature.
3. Taking time to appreciate the beauty of nature.
4. Thinking about the meaning and signs of nature.
5. Showing compassion and care for nature

Healthy connections activity sheets

The suggested age ranges for these activity sheets are:

- A forest feeling - 4 to 7 years olds.
- Wellbeing warriors - 7 to 11 years olds.
- Mindful moments - 11 to 14 years olds

<https://www.forestryengland.uk/family-activity/healthy-connections-activities>

Credits 2 hours
Skills: Problem solving and Adapting

The Countryside Code Challenge

CU Learning Provider: Pawprint Challenge

The Countryside Code team at Natural England are excited to work with Pawprint Family to help us spread the message of the countryside code and give more people the confidence to explore the outdoors. These amazing activities and challenges are a fun way to learn how to **protect, respect and more important of all enjoy the outdoors!**

This challenge pack includes 40+ activity ideas to help you learn and spread the word of the Countryside Code.

Challenge packs comprise of 4 sections: games, food, craft and other.

Suggested challenges for different age groups:

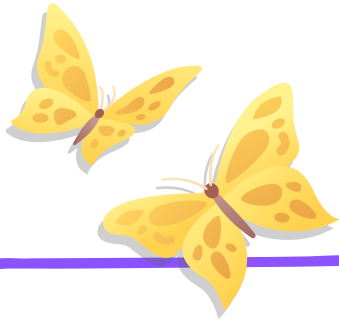
- 5-7 Years : Complete 1 challenge from each of the 4 sections.
- 7-11 Years : Complete 1 challenge from each of the 4 sections + 1 more of your choice.
- 11-14 Years : Complete 1 challenge from each of the 4 sections + 2 more of your choice.
- 14-18 Years : Complete 1 challenge from each of the 4 sections + 3 more of your choice.

<https://pawprintfamily.com/free-printable/the-countryside-code-challenge-pack-new.pdf>

Credits 2 hours
Skills: Problem solving Creativity and Teamwork

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Children's University Spring Challenge

CU Learning Provider: Pawprint Badges

Once again Children's University have teamed up with Pawprint Badges to run our very own Spring Challenge! You can take part completely for free, but there is also a fantastic woven badge you can buy to commemorate your participation. Simply download the Challenge Pack from Pawprint for free, and let them know when you've completed the challenge!

4 credits

Skills

Problem solving, Creativity and Teamwork

<https://pawprintfamily.com/product/childrens-university-spring-challenge-pack/>



Spring Craft 2026

CU Learning Provider: ootiboo

SpringCraft is a brand new competition for any age, anywhere, celebrating all things springtime! Create anything around the theme of Spring using any medium and share it with us to have your work added to the gallery and a chance to win a prize!

The deadline is May 31st. Once you have submitted your work, you will be sent a Children's University stamp.

2 Credits

<https://play.ootiboo.com/ootiboo-play/projects/springcraft>

Skills - Listening and Creativity

Grow your own tomatoes

Try taking some seeds from a tomato and dry them on a paper towel.

Once they are fully dry, Plant in some potting compost using a yoghurt pot, make sure you make a hole in the bottom to let the water drain away. Fill it about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up.

Cut the paper towel into pieces with up to 4 tomato seeds on it and place on top of the soil and cover with another layer of soil and water.

Cover with some clear plastic such as sandwich bag and place on a warm window sill.

After 10 days you should see some seedlings appear. Keep the soil moist. When your plants have another set of leaves you will be able to transfer each seedling into a larger pot and watch your new tomato plants grow!

2 Credits

Skills: Creative



MATHS

Family Fun

Try out these fun Maths activities at home.

Maths Fun From our Friends at The SCIENCE MUSEUM

Shape Detectives (KS1)

<https://learning.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/resources/shape-detectives/>

This activity involves cutting out templates and looking through the openings to find these shapes in the real world.

Bottle Top Shapes (KS1)

<https://learning.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/resources/bottle-top-shapes/>

Shapes and patterns can be found all around us – from flowers to footballs and seashells to staircases. In this activity, simple lines drawn on bottle tops or jam jar lids provide a fun way into the wonderful world of geometry.

Did you know

A football is made up of two different repeating shapes. The black patches are pentagons and the white patches are hexagons.



MATHS

Family Fun

Try out these fun Maths activities at home.

Bubble Geometry (KS2)

<https://learning.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/resources/bubble-geometry/>

Geometry is the study of shapes and their properties. This activity makes use of geometry in observing the shapes and angles soap bubbles create when they join together.

Make an Animation (KS2)

<https://learning.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/resources/make-an-animation/>

An animation is made up of a sequence of still images shown in rapid succession, each image slightly different from the last.

This activity involves making a device called a phenakistoscope, which displays a continuously looping animation consisting of images drawn onto a spinning disc.



Skills: Problem solving, Creativity and Adapting

1 Credit per activity

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Check
It Out
↓

SCIENCE

Have some fun at home with these science activities from Science Sparks and the Primary Science Teaching Trust

<https://pstt.org.uk/resources/science-fun-at-home/>

Here are a few suggestions of activities to try at home:

Properties & Uses of Materials, States of Matter
Liquid Science

Learn about viscosity of different liquids.
Outdoor Learning, Practical Science, Science Enquiry | 5-7, 7-9, 9-12

Plants, Properties & Uses of Materials
Science Flowers

The power of flowers (paper and real).
Outdoor Learning, Practical Science, Science Enquiry | 5-7, 7-9, 9-12

Forces, Properties & Uses of Materials
Sink or Swim

Will it float or sink?
Outdoor Learning, Practical Science, Science Enquiry | 5-7, 7-9, 9-12

Forces, Properties & Uses of Materials
Egg-citing Science

Will an egg float?
Outdoor Learning, Practical Science, Science Enquiry | 5-7, 7-9, 9-12

Skills: Problem solving and Creativity
1 credit per activity



IDEAS EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Free or low cost workshops for Children this Easter:

Retailers are running a mix of free and cheap workshops this Easter to keep children entertained and learn something new:

- [Pets at Home: 'My Pet Pals'](#) runs from 5 to 19 April and teaches kids about responsible pet care. Sessions are free, interactive and aimed at children aged 4+.
- [Dobbies Garden Centres:](#) free 'Little Seedlings' workshops for 4-10s, focusing on nature and seasonal activities, running across the Easter break.
- [Hobbycraft: easter-themed craft workshops,](#) including making clay chicks, available in stores from £6.
- [Apple store: free creative sessions](#) at Apple Stores, including learning to code and making music.

tip: spaces are limited and often book up fast during school holidays, so you will need to reserve a place online in advance.

Skills - Creative
1 credit per activity



[9 cheap and free things to do over the Easter holidays](#)

