

Spring is coming



Getting outdoors has been found to be beneficial for our physical health, mental well-being and it is completely free. It's also a great place to learn!

If you are wondering how to cover the curriculum whilst home-schooling or working in your school grounds with key worker children, here are some outdoor learning ideas that can help. Some can be done in your garden or from a window, others as part of your permitted daily outdoor exercise, following the latest government advice on social distancing and self isolation. We hope these activities will also encourage you to connect with the natural world, notice the wonderful wildlife all around you and have fun.

Maths ~ How old is that tree?

On average, trees grow 2cm wider around their trunk every year.

You can work out the age of a tree by measuring the circumference of the trunk in cm, at about 1m height, and dividing by 2.

What's the oldest tree you can find?



Download factsheet
sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/activitysheets



Science ~ City Nature Challenge

From Friday 24 – Sunday 27 April, people all over the world are looking for wildlife in their garden and recording it using the iNaturalist app.

Join the Brighton & Hove team to discover the wildlife living in our city.

What can you find under stones or pots outside your house?

Is there anything flying high in the sky or pollinating the flowers?

What wildlife is lurking in corners of your house?

Find out more here



bhee.co.uk/city-nature-challenge-2020

Literacy ~ Sit Spots

Find a quiet place to sit.

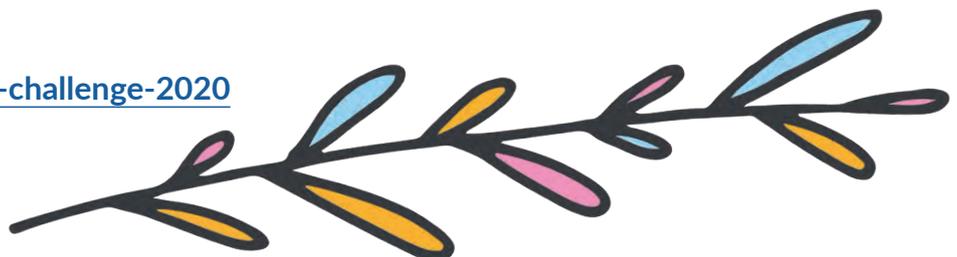
Spend a few minutes just listening to the sounds around you. You might find it easier to close your eyes.

Write down all the sounds you hear.

Can you use these sounds to write a poem back at home?

Geography ~ Natural Maps

Can you make a map of your garden or park using natural materials e.g. leaves, sticks or feathers?



Music ~ Sounds of Spring

Birds are busy singing to each other. They do this to attract a mate before they start to breed, as well as defending their territory.

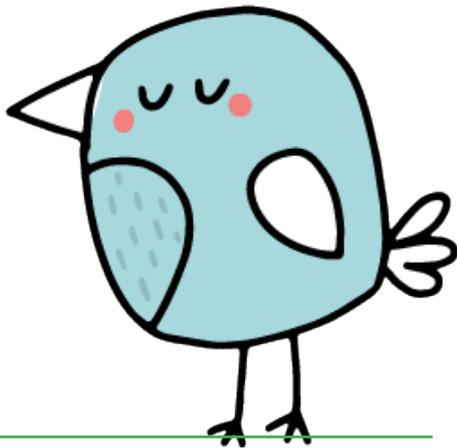
Go out and listen for some birds song.

Can you hear them responding to each other?

How many different songs can you hear?

Can you imitate them?

Can you identify any? (see ICT section for help!)



History ~ Stone Age Paintings

Can you use your natural paints to make some Stone Age cave paintings?

Place your hand on the ground and blow runny paint around it using a straw or a hollowed out elder twig.

You can find art like this in many Stone Age caves.

Just for fun ~ Natural Dyes

Egg-cellent activity - How to decorate eggs using natural dyes.

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/eastereggs

ITC ~ Bird Apps

Download and try out these free apps

 **UK Bird Sounds** – recordings of birdsong
www.british-birdsongs.uk

 **BirdNET** – allows you to record birdsong and identifies it for you!
birdnet.cornell.edu

DT ~ Constructing Shapes

Collect some sticks. Use elastic bands, sellotape or string to make 3D shapes.

Can you make a cube, a pyramid or a star to hang up in your garden?



Art ~ Natural Paint

What natural paints can you make?

You could use mud, ground up chalk, charcoal or freshly squeezed leaves to start you off.



PE ~ Wildlife Yoga

Practice some wildlife yoga.

Can you make up your own poses for a crab, fox and hedgehog? There are more ideas for wildlife poses in the link below.

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/indoor-activity-sheets

For more ideas of things you can do at home

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/gowildathome



Spring magic



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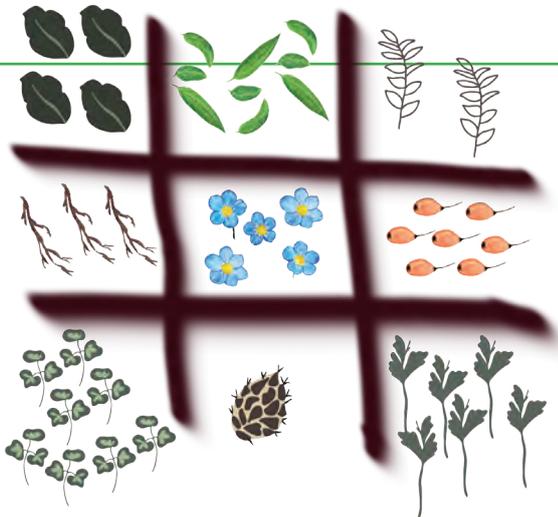
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Maths ~ Magic Number Squares

Draw a 3x3 grid with sticks or chalk. Make piles of 1,2,3.....9 stones.

Can you put a pile in each square of the grid so the number of stones in each column, row and diagonal add up to 15.

You may want to use different objects that you find on the ground for each number eg 1 feather, 2 daisies, 3 shells, 4 leaves etc.



Literacy ~ Lost Words

Did you know that many words about nature (eg bluebell, dandelion, newt, starling) no longer appear in children's dictionaries?

Can spot these species on your daily walk?

Can you make your own 'nature dictionary' so these words don't get forgotten.



www.thelostwords.org

Science ~ Spring is here

Things are changing fast in nature – blossom blooming, leaves bursting out, birds building nests and tadpoles growing.

Can you record the changes in your garden or the park over the next few weeks and record them in a diary.

You might like to record when you see the 'first thing' on this website. Scientists have been recording when different species first appear for years.

Can you add your findings to this website?



naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk

Geography ~ Windy City

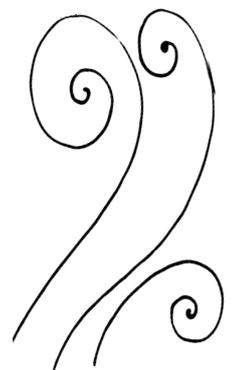
It's been very windy recently. We can often feel the wind on our faces or see it blowing the leaves in the trees.

You can compare the strength of the wind using a piece of wool tied to the end of a stick. The more wind there is, the more the wool will move around.

Where's the windiest place you can find near your house?

Does the wind change as you walk around?

If you want to measure wind speed, have a look online for ideas to make an anemometers?



Music ~ Sound Maps

Push a stick in the ground – this represents you. Have a listen to the sounds around you.

Can you represent the sound and where it's coming from on your 'sound map' using natural materials?



ITC ~ Sky at Night

This is the time of year when you can see huge meteor showers in the sky.



Try downloading a stargazing app and see what star constellations you can recognise while you look for meteors.

DT ~ Make a Bee Hotel

Solitary bees don't sting. They lay their eggs in holes and block off the hole with mud while the egg hatches and the larva grow.

Make your own solitary bee home by drilling different sized holes in a piece of wood (with adult help).

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/news/make-a-bee-hotel

History ~ The Booth Museum

Edward Booth was a naturalist who gave his collection of stuffed birds to the city of Brighton when he died in 1980. They are now in the Booth Museum.

What can you find out about him, his life and how ideas about nature conservation have changed over the last 100 years?

Art ~ Nature's Palette

Can you collect a rainbow of colours whilst on a walk? Bring them back home and try to mix paint to make the exact same shades.

You could use mud, ground up chalk, charcoal or freshly squeezed leaves to start you off.

Just for fun ~ Natural Tie Dye

Egg-cellent activity - How to decorate eggs using natural dyes.

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/eastereggs

PE ~ Tree Exercises

In a park, time yourself running between two trees. Lean against the trunk of a tree to practice push-ups. See how high up the trunk you can reach whilst jumping. Don't forget to hug your tree afterwards (and wash your hands when you get home!)

For more ideas of things you can do at home

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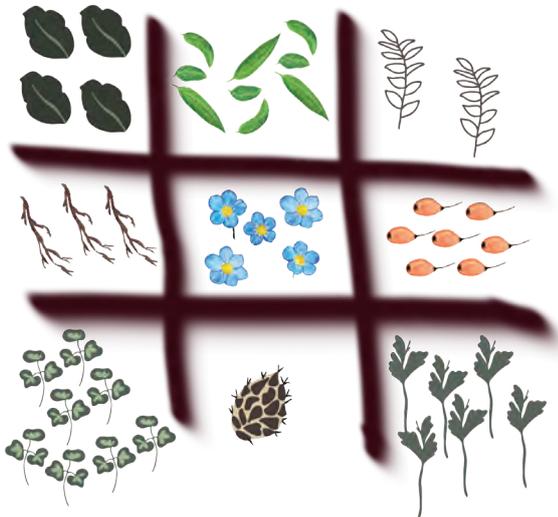
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Can you record the changes in your garden, local park or greenspace over the next few weeks and record them in a diary.

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Can you add your findings to this website?



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Does the wind change as you walk around?

If you want to measure wind speed, you can make an anemometer.



wikihow.com/Make-an-Anemometer

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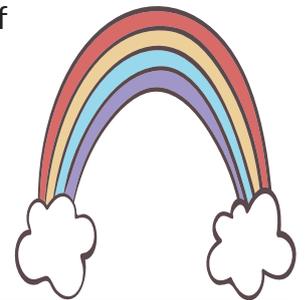
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Just for fun ~ Natural Tie Dye

Use berries or natural dyes to create beautiful flags or bunting.

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Tree-mendous



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Maths ~ Leaf Maths

Can you work out the length, perimeter and areas of different leaves?

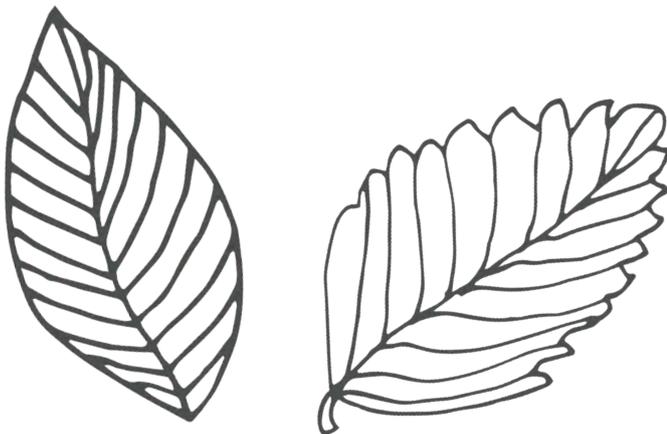
Hint – a ruler, string and squared paper may help.

Do the longest leaves always have the largest area and perimeter?

Download tree ID sheet



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/learning-resources



Science ~ Shake it up

Shake a branch of a bush or a tree into a white pillowcase. Look inside or tip onto a light coloured tray to find out what creatures live on that branch.

Can you identify and draw any of them?

Download insect ID sheet



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/learning-resources



Geography ~ Muddy Landscape

Build a natural landscape in your garden or in a tray using mud, clay or sand.

Use natural materials to add hills, trees, rivers, villages etc.

Imagine you are seagull flying over this landscape. What would it look like from a birds eye view?



Literacy ~ STICKY WORDS

Can you form the letters of the alphabet out of sticks?

If that's too easy – try spelling some tricky words using sticks. You could try these tricky nature words – camouflage, pupae, nymph, species, chlorophyll.

Can you describe what they all mean?

Music ~ Nature's Music

Bang different sticks together. Do they all make the same sound? What makes the sound higher or lower?

Can you build a xylophone using different length sticks? It helps if you lay two large sticks on the ground first and balance the other sticks on top. This allows the sound to vibrate better.

History ~ Theseus & the Minotaur

In this Ancient Greek story, King Minos built a maze to stop the minotaur killing the villagers.

You could create a maze out of sticks or other natural materials to contain the minotaur.

You could draw a picture of Theseus on a stone and guide him safely through your maze so he can defeat the minotaur.



PE ~ Fresh Air and Exercise

Get up really early and enjoy exercising with an adult before lots of other people are about. Experience the sights, sounds and smells of the early morning and enjoy the peace, calmness and clean air, now there are not so many cars on the road.

ITC ~ Nature Photography

Take your camera or phone out with you on a walk and try taking pictures of wildlife.

Can you take close ups?

Can you get a good shot of a flying insect?

Can you take a picture of something common from an interesting angle?

You can find tips on nature photography here



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/phototips

DT ~ Make a Bird Feeder

Birds still need feeding in Spring, especially when feeding their young. Make sure you avoid whole peanuts as they are not good for baby birds.

Make your own bird feeder



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/outdoor-activity-sheets

If you are feeling more creative, you might be able to make a hanging bird feeder out of an old plastic milk bottle or tetrapac.

Art ~ Natural Sculpture

Gather together some natural materials that you find on the ground. Can you arrange them (exploring shape, colour, texture and pattern) to make a piece of art that others will enjoy?

You might like to take inspiration from other 'land artists' like Andy Goldsworthy, David Nash, Agnes Denes and Chris Drury who designed the grass maze in Hove Park.

Just for fun ~ Kestrel Cam

Watch our young Kestrel chicks, filmed previously, as they leave their nest box.



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/kestrelcam

For more ideas of things you can do at home



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Grow your own



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Maths ~ Stone Takeaway

A game for two players

Collect 21 stones, sticks or shells etc.

Place all 21 in a line. Take it in turns to remove 1, 2 or 3 stones. Repeat until the last stone is left.

The winner is the one who removes the final stone.

You will need to use strategy, planning and problem solving.



Geography ~ Make a Sun Dial

Plant a tall, straight stick in a sunny spot (slanting slightly north).

As the sun shines on the stick, it will cast a shadow.

Check the position of the shadow on the hour, every hour. Mark the position on the ground with a labelled stone.

Repeat every hour from sunrise to sunset to make your sundial.



www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Sundial#Using-Sticks-and-Stones

Science ~ Grow Your Own

Try planting some seeds and watch them grow. Record what you see each day.

If you don't have any seeds, you can try growing your old food scraps!

Celery – cut off the base and leave in warm water until new leaves start to appear

Tomatoes – wash and dry out the seeds and then plant in soil

Pineapples and avocados – suspend just over a container of water using cocktail sticks

Garlic – plant each clove straight in the soil, root end down – simple!



Literacy ~ Alphabet Challenge

Use the A to Z spotter sheet to try our nature scavenger hunt. All these species can be found in Sussex. How many can you find?

You might like to make your own nature alphabet up.

Download spotter sheet & watch the video here for inspiration.



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/twopointsix

Music ~ Nature's Music

Play your favourite song using a blade of grass.

Hold a blade of grass tightly between your two thumbs. Blow gently into the gap between your thumbs until you hear a whistle.



ITC ~ Zoom

Many of you are probably using Zoom. Can you find a place that you'd like to visit and download it as your Virtual Background.

Have a look here for inspiration

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/zoom

History ~ Can you dig it?

Become an archaeologist and discover the secrets of the past in your garden.

Mark out a small space and gently peel back the grass (with adult permission). Dig down with a spoon or trowel and see what natural or man-made things you find underground.

How did they get there? How long have they been there? Can you clean and display your finds? Don't forget to put the grass back after!

DT ~ Nest Building

Birds have been busy building their nests and laying their eggs. Different birds build nests in different ways. Blackbirds and robins use their beaks to weave grasses and small twigs into neat cup shapes, then camouflage with moss and line with mud.

Can you build your own nest for a toy? You could try doing it with chopsticks or tweezers to imitate a beak.

 wildforestschool.org.uk/wild-activities

PE ~ Scavenger Hunt

Enjoy a scavenger hunt in the park as a part of your daily exercise. Prepare a list of things to look for in advance, here are some examples:

- a plant growing in the pavement
- something spikey
- a stick the same length as your shoe
- a leaf with an odd number of points
- a tree covered in moss

Add some of your own ideas too.

Just for fun ~ Snail Racing

Have a go at Snail Racing and discover some juicy facts about slugs and snails too.

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/snailrace

Art ~ Wild Weaving

Use a Y shaped stick (or a square of card with notches in either end) to make a weaving loom. Wind the string or wool between the gap in the stick (or between the notches of the card) to create the warp threads.

Collect long, thin flowers, stems, grasses, leaves or feathers on your daily walk. Use them to thread into your loom.

Remember to go over-under-over-under the string.



For more ideas of things you can do at home

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/gowildathome

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Symmetry in Nature



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Maths ~ Symmetry in Nature

Did you know that there are lots of Elm trees in Brighton & Hove but they are very rare in other parts of the country?

You can easily recognise an Elm tree as the leaves are NOT symmetrical – one side is longer than the other.

Can you use this fact to identify Elm trees near your house?

Can you find any symmetrical objects in your garden or park?

Can you use leaves and twigs to make some symmetrical butterfly pictures?



Science ~ Wiggly Worm Composting

Worms play a vital role in our ecosystem, helping dead leaves decompose and turn into soil. You can make your own wormery and watch them in action.

Fill a large jar or plastic bottle with layers of soil, sand and leaves. Add some worms, secure with a lid (it must have air holes in) and keep somewhere dark.

Can you see the worms mixing up the layers and helping to decompose the leaves?

Don't forget to release the worms when their job is done.



Download Wormery Activity Sheet
sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/activity-sheets

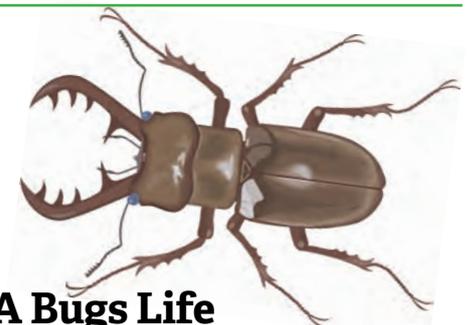
Geography ~ Hag Stones

The flint on Brighton beach was formed under the sea from dissolved sea sponges over 80 million years ago.

Attrition and abrasion are forms of erosion that break up and smooth the pebbles.

A hag stone is a stone with a hole in – made from sand or smaller stones repeatedly grinding at the surface (eroding) until a hole is formed.

Can you find any hag stones? They are believed to have magical properties, allowing you to see into another world. What can you see through your hag stone?



Literacy ~ A Bug's Life

Find a bug in your garden or park and watch it closely for several minutes, imagining you are that bug.

Where are you going?
What are you trying to do?
What are you thinking?

Can you write a description of your journey from the bug's point of view?

Music ~ Lark Ascending

If you go onto The Downs you may see Skylarks soaring high into the sky then dropping quickly to their nests on the ground.

This inspired Ralph Vaughan Williams to write the music 'The Lark Ascending'. Can you listen to it? What image does it create in your mind?



ICT ~ Tree ID

Download the free Woodland Trust Tree ID app. Try to identify some of the trees that you find on your daily walk.

Have a look here for inspiration



www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/british-trees/tree-id-app/

DT ~ Butterfly Feeding Station

Butterflies are attracted to the colour and sweet tasting nectar of flowers. Create a place for them to feed and where you can watch them up close.



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/activity-sheets



History ~ Stone Age Tools

Flint has been used since the Stone Age to make fire and tools eg scrapers, arrow heads and blades.

Can you find some flint in the park or on the beach? Can you smell burning after rubbing two pieces of flint together?

Art ~ Hapa Zome

Make a beautiful butterfly using traditional Japanese Leaf Art. This film will give you some inspiration.



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/hapazome

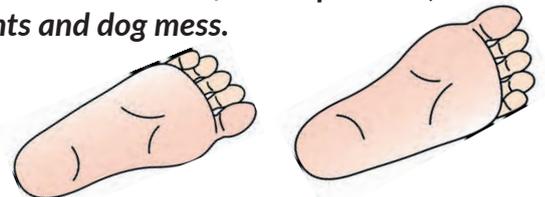
PE ~ Bare Foot Walk

Did you know butterflies taste with their feet? How sensitive are your feet?

Try walking or running barefoot. What different textures can you experience? The early morning dew and squelchy mud are particularly interesting!

Can you run faster with trainers on or barefoot?

You will need to watch out for sharp stones, prickly plants and dog mess.



Just for fun ~ Bird Race

Join in the Back Garden Bird Race and see how many different species you can spot.



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/backgardenbirdrace

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Sticks and Stones



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Maths ~ How Tall Is That Tree?

Here's a simple way to estimate the height of a tree.

Stand with your back to a tree. Keep walking away from the tree, bending down to look through your legs. When you can just see the top of the tree through your legs, you are the same distance from the tree as the tree's height. Measure the distance using a tape measure or long 1m strides.



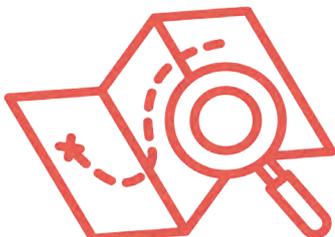
Lots of other ways for estimating heights of trees here.

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/learning-resources

Geography ~ Map Your Patch

Draw a map of your local area.

Mark on it important natural features eg trees, wildflowers (sometimes called weeds) and gardens. You may like to identify different trees and use a key to distinguish between them.



Science ~ Rockpooling

Explore the wonderful wildlife living in the rockpools east of Brighton Marina with your adult.

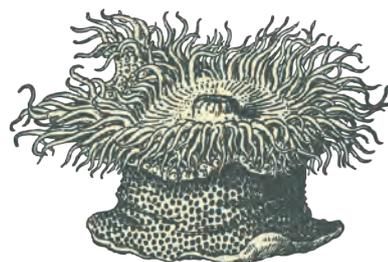
You can rockpool 1 hour either side of low tide. Low tides this week are on:

- * Monday 2pm
- * Tuesday 3.15pm
- * Wednesday 4.15pm
- * Thursday 5pm
- * Friday 5.45pm

Download Rockpooling Activity Sheet



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/learning-resources



Literacy ~ Stone Stories

Make your own story stones by painting pictures on pebbles.

Use them to generate a limitless number of imaginative stories.



Music ~ Bird Chat

Find out what birds are really communicating when they sing.



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/birdcalls

Can you create your own bird music to express contact, begging, alarm, territory and mating.

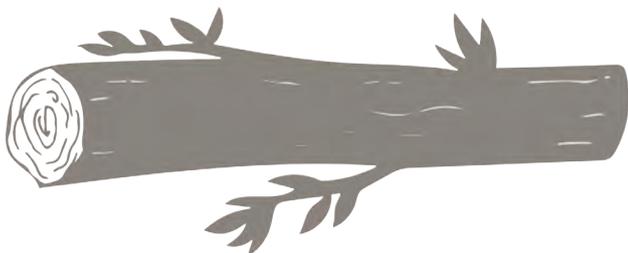
History ~ Viking Braiding

Vikings children didn't go to school. They learnt lots of skills and crafts at home.

You can learn how to make a Viking Braid here.



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/vikingbraid



Art ~ Texture Walk

Explore textures in your garden or park by doing some rubbings with a crayon and thin paper or using tin foil. Bark, leaves and pavements work well.

Back home, you could create a texture collage or a leaf pattern.

Just for fun ~ 30 Days Wild

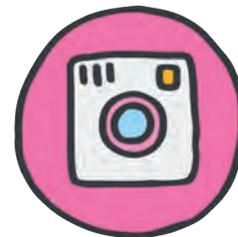
Can you go wild in June?
Sign up for 30 Days Wild



wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild

ICT ~ Nature

Take some photos or short videos of the nature in your garden or park. Try editing them together to make a short film of the wildlife where you live.



We'd love to see what you create!

DT ~ Elderflower Cordial

Elder trees can be found all over Brighton & Hove. The sprays of white, scented flowers should still be out.

Try this recipe for a delicious drink.

- Place 1 litre of elderflowers in a pan (make sure you shake any bugs off first!)
- Add some lemon zest and cover with water.
- Simmer for 30 minutes then strain the liquid.
- Add 350g sugar and juice of half a lemon to each 500ml liquid.
- Bring to the boil again, then bottle.
- It keeps in the fridge for two weeks.



PE ~ Plogging

Plogging is litter picking whilst jogging. It's good for us (stamina and flexibility) and is good for the environment too.

*Remember to take some gloves
and a bag to put your rubbish in.*

For more ideas of things you can do at home



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/gowildathome

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Bioblitz



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Maths ~ Matchstick Puzzles

Collect and use sticks to create and solve matchstick puzzles.

Here's one to get you started.

Arrange sticks like this.



Can you move 3 sticks so there are only 3 squares? (Answer on the back)

There are lots more examples online.

Geography ~ Traffic Tally

Watch the traffic outside your house.

How many pedestrians, bikes, cars, lorries can you see? Record this on a tally chart.

- > How does this change throughout the day?
- > How has this changed throughout lockdown?
- > How could you encourage more sustainable transport in your area?

Science ~ Grounds 4 Nature

A Bioblitz is when we try to find as many species as possible within a certain time.

Join in the University of Brighton's 'Grounds 4 Nature' BioBlitz in your school grounds, park or garden, from 4 - 11 June 2020.

You can find all the details you need here.

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/learning-resources

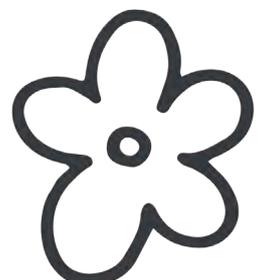


Literacy ~ Plea for Protection

Choose a special tree, plant or creature you identified in the bioblitz.

Write an email or letter to the council or a wildlife charity from the plant or creature's point of view asking for protection.

- > What threats are they facing?
- > What would help them survive?
- > Why is it important they survive?



Music ~ Watery Scales

Take a jug of water and some glass bottles or jars outside.

Can you fill the jars with the right amount of water to play a scale? What tunes can you play?

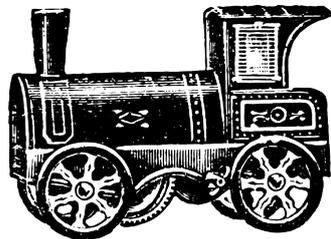
Find different objects to (gently!) hit the glass with. What makes the best sound?

History ~ Historical Timelines

Create an outdoor historical timeline to show key events in history.

You might choose events in your life, important inventions or historical eras. Use chalk or a piece of rope / string to make the timeline.

Think about appropriate scale and how you will mark each event.



Art ~ Nature's Shadows

On a sunny day, explore shadow patterns.

Put some paper under a tree and draw the shadows the leaves make.

You could also hold up flowers or leaves over your paper and draw the patterns they create.

Just for fun ~ May Bug Movie

Watch these bundling beetles. They are called lots of names such as Cockchafer, May Bugs, Spang Beetles, Billy Witches. Have you seen any?



youtu.be/pAtPAWcqDu8

ICT ~ Seek

Download and use the free 'Seek' app to help you identify different plants and creatures.

This will help you with the Grounds 4 Nature bioblitz.

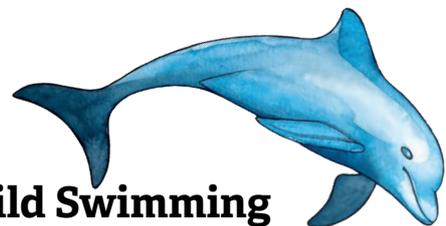


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DT ~ Make a Kite

Can you design and construct a kite out of some sticks, a plastic bag and some string?

Enjoy flying it when the wind gets up.



PE ~ Wild Swimming

The sea is warming up nicely. Try going for a sea swim on a calm day with your adult.

High tide is good if you want to get in quickly. Low tide is good for a paddle.

Maths ~ Matchstick Puzzles answer



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Dolphin Music

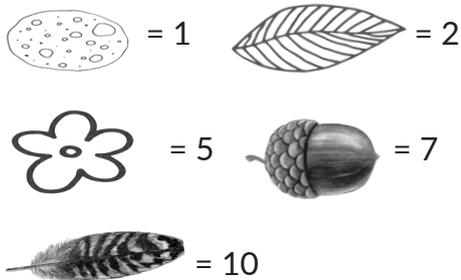


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Maths ~ Naturally Algebra

Gather together some natural materials. For this activity



Example

$$\text{Flower} \times \text{Acorn} + \text{Seed Pod} = 36$$

Can you make up some sums where the answer is 7, 12, 25, 36, 40, 100

You could write these sums outside, with chalk or by making the signs using sticks.

Can you make some more up and ask your adult to guess the value of each object?

Geography ~ River Formation

Watch what happens when you slowly pour water down a gentle slope in your playground or garden.

Create a hilly landscape out of mud or sand. Gently pour water down from the top. Watch the route the water takes.

Can you describe what is happening using the words source, mouth, delta erosion, deposition.

Science ~ Insect Lifecycles

Look for the foamy, spit-like blobs on the stems of plants.

If you gently poke around in this, you'll come across a spittlebug larva. It makes this spittle from plant sap and blows it out of it's bottom to protect itself from predators.

The larva will eventually turn into a froghopper. Find out more about this fascinating creature.



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/news/corona-wildlife-diary-day-seventy-two

Record any findings of spittlebugs on this citizen science survey here from the University of Sussex.



www.spittlebugsurvey.co.uk/

Literacy ~ Haiku

Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry, formed of 3 lines with 5,7,5 syllables, often showing an appreciation of nature

Clouds

Floating in the sky
Forming, changing, drifting on
Nature's wispy breathe

Birds

Flying through the sky
Soaring, flapping, being free
Scavenging, nesting



Write your own haiku showing what you appreciated about nature.

Music ~ Dolphin Music

Pods of dolphins are being spotted regularly off the coast of Brighton.

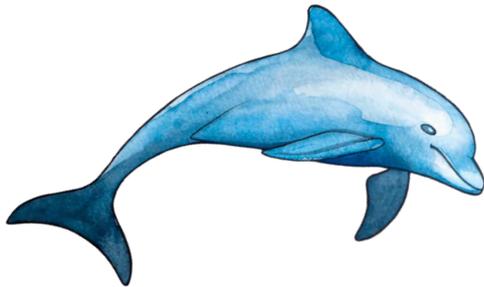
Dolphins use a series of clicks and whistles to 'sing' and communicate.

We haven't spotted any whales off Brighton yet – but watch this short film about whale song.
Whale song



<https://youtu.be/7Xr9BYhlceA>

Can you experiment with making different sounds underwater?



Art ~ Mark Marking

Collect different sticks, feathers, stones to try creating different effects with paint.

You can try making your own paintbrush by taking a fresh stick. Peel off the bark at one end and bash it with a stick, stone or hammer until the fibres of the wood separate.

Just for fun ~ French Bingo

Have you been taking part in 30 Days Wild?

Try this 30 Days Wild bingoin FRENCH!



youtu.be/oPLXuhZZfBY

ICT ~ Perfect Photos

Take a photo of some wildlife then download the free app 'Snapseed' and use it to enhance your images. It can adjust the colour, crop, sharpen and add filters.



DT ~ Lego Challenge

Create your own garden bird out of lego.



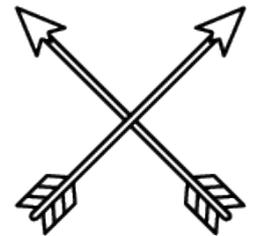
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PE ~ Track and Trail

Use chalk or sticks to create a trail around your garden, local streets or park.

Can your family follow the trail and find some treasure at the end?



History ~ Historical Graveyards

Take a walk around a local churchyard. Explore the tombstones.

When did most people die?
How old were they when they died?
Can you spot any common names?

Choose one interesting tomb and back home, research what was happening in history whilst they were alive.

For more ideas of things you can do at home



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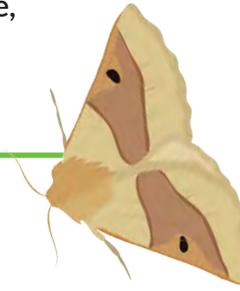
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Magical Moths



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Maths ~ Leaf Multiplication

Count the points or leaflets on different types of leaves.

Collect and use to practice your tables.

Eg 1 sycamore leaf has 5 points
2 sycamore leaves have 10 points
3 sycamore leaves...

Try different species

eg Ash leaves have 9 or 11 leaflets
Buttercup leaves have 3 leaflets

Music ~ Wild Rattles

Create your own natural percussion instrument using a Y shaped stick, an elastic band and some natural objects.

This example has used slipper limpets from the beach (they are often found with holes in). You may have other ideas what would make a good rattling sound.



Science ~ Marvellous Moths

Most moths come out at night. There are two easy ways of attracting moths into your garden after dark. If you get up early, there's a good chance they will still be there in the morning.

1. Hang a white sheet on a washing line. Hold or suspend a powerful torch behind it. The moths will be attracted to this light
2. Mix some old red wine and sugar and heat until the sugar dissolves. Soak some strips of old cloth in it and hang in a tree. Moths love drinking this sticky treat.

More about moth trapping here:



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/news/corona-wildlife-diary-day-sixty-six



Literacy ~ Nature Table

Collect interesting natural things (e.g feathers, bones, shells) in the park, woods or on the beach.

Bring them home and make a nature table, shelf or windowsill.

Write labels explaining what you have found.



Geography ~ Beaver Dams

Beavers are coming to Sussex! They build dams in rivers which can help stop flooding downstream and create new habitats.

Can you make a dam in an old drainpipe? (You can often find these being thrown out in the streets!)

Pour in your river - what materials make the dam strongest?

Get some inspiration from this film



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/beaverstory

DT ~ Nourishing Nettles

Nettles are an important habitat for butterflies and ladybirds. They are also edible, rich in vitamins.

Using strong gloves, pick some nettles and use to make nettle tea, nettle soup, nettle crisps (just singe above a flame), nettle pakora (dip in a spicy batter and fry) or try making up your own nettle recipe.

Did you know... it's the hairs on the stem and underside of the leaves that cause nettles to sting.

Just for fun ~ Wild Webcams

Check out these webcams from around the UK



www.wildlifetrusts.org/webcams

For more ideas of things you can do at home



sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/gowildathome

Show us what you have been doing, upload your photos here



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ICT ~ Photography Challenge

Can you take a photo of:

- An interesting texture
- A bird flying
- Something smaller than your nail
- 2 contrasting colours
- Something in nature that makes you feel happy

Art ~ Create your own Masterpiece

Find a painting by a famous artist. Try to recreate it using natural materials.

Here's one of Monet's garden.



PE ~ Hill Running

For a really tough fitness challenge, go to the beach at low tide and try running up and down the pebble slopes.

If you are nearer the downs you could try some grassland hill running instead. Good luck!

History ~ Historic Hillforts

Explore the Neolithic hillfort at Whitehawk Hill and the iron age hillforts at Hollingbury and Ditchling Beacon.

With such big views, it's easy to see why our ancestors chose these sites for their settlements.

Mermaid's Purses



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Maths ~ Muddy Maths

Make a big pile of mud balls.

Set up flowerpots or buckets with numbers 1, 2, 5, 10, 25 on them.

Children pick a number between 1 and 100. Can they make their chosen number by throwing mud balls into the corresponding buckets.



Eg $64 = 25 + 25 + 10 + 2 + 2$

If you don't have mud, try using stones instead.

Science ~ Great Eggcase Hunt

Ever seen mermaid purses on the beach and wondered what they are?

They are the eggcases of rays (big black ones) and catsharks (small brown ones).

Join in a national eggcase survey to help monitor what is living in our seas.



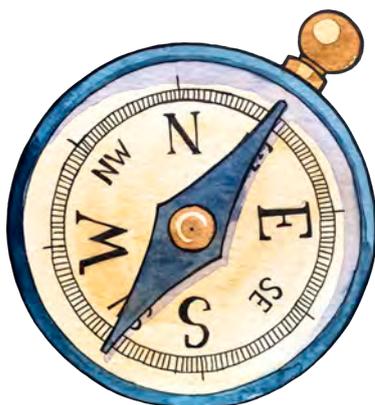
mcsuk.org/beachwatch/sites/mcsuk.org.beachwatch/files/resources/Beachwatch_Great_Eggcase_Hunt_leaflet.pdf



Geography ~ Treasure Hunt

Create clues for a treasure hunt using a compass (either hand-held or on a phone) and paces.

Include at least five different stops on the way to find some buried or hidden treasure.



Literacy ~ Read Outside

Enjoy the pleasures of reading outside – under a tree, on the beach or in the long grass.

Music ~ Sound Garden

Create a sound garden in your outdoor space by making wind chimes from natural objects eg shells, hag stones, fir cones.

Some of your creations could use the wind to generate sound, others may need a stick beater to help.

DT ~ Den Building

Try building a tipi or a lean-to den for your toys.

More ideas here.

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/denbuilding

History ~ Roman Mosaics

Romans loved creating mosaics to decorate the floors of their buildings.

Create your own mosaic to decorate your garden or playground using a base of mud or sand, stones, stick pieces, petals, and leaves.



Just for fun ~ Elder Beads

Make beads from Elder twigs.

 sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/elderbeads

ICT ~ Tech Turn Off

Have a day (or a week if you dare) without using technology.

Does technology improve or restrict your life?



Art ~ Salt-dough

Find some bugs and, after careful observation, make a salt-dough model.

Saltdough Recipe

1 cup plain flour

1 cup salt

½ cup water



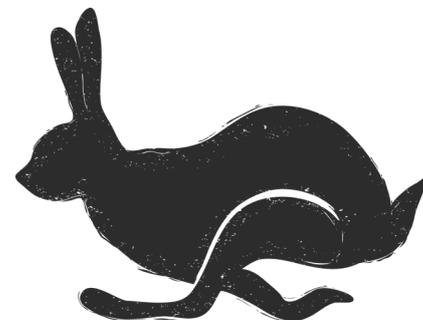
Bake on a low temperature for three hours.

PE ~ Up on the Downs

Challenge yourself to a whole day hike.

Take a picnic and plenty of water (or check out the cafes at Stanmer, Saddlescoomb and Truleigh Hill).

Enjoy that feeling of exhaustion from a full day of outdoor exercise.



The end or just the beginning?

After making home learning resources for the last ten weeks, we reckon you're ready to go it alone! We hope you continue getting outdoors and connecting with nature – surely our greatest teacher.

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