

SUMMER CHALLENGES

It's the summer holiday and we've reached the end of the daily home learning tasks. Parents' / carers' feedback about our previous holiday activities was really positive, so here are some more holiday challenges that you and your child might want to complete over the summer holidays.

The tasks are creative and are designed to allow children the opportunity to enjoy some different learning, ideally alongside family members.

A few key points...

- The list is the same across year groups, meaning if you've more than one child, they might work on it together in some way.
- You can encourage your child to do some or all of the activities – **they're all optional.**
- We're sorry – unlike at Easter and the summer half-term, teachers won't be around so please don't email them. Teachers will not be giving feedback about these tasks.



Doodle art

Paper and drawing materials are all you need for this activity where you simply draw some lines with a marker or pencil on paper and then fill in the blank spaces with colours. Or, you can take it one step further and find hidden monsters and critters in your drawings. Doodling is great because you never know what might develop!



Indoor gym

Transform your house into a mini-gym and create some fun, age-appropriate sports stations.

You can put a trail of paper sheets on the floor which you have to walk over without touching anything else but the paper.

Time jumping on the spot, which can be made more difficult for older children (maybe they have to spin around while jumping).

A planking station is great fun as well. Any other kind of gymnastic exercise which is performed only with their own body weight is great.

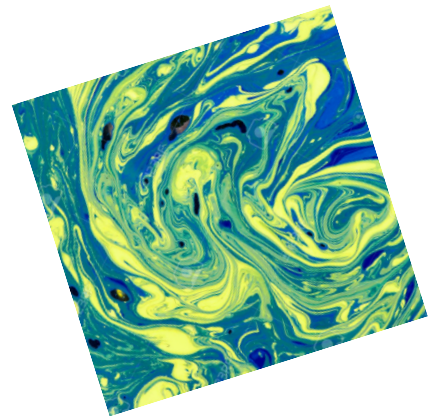
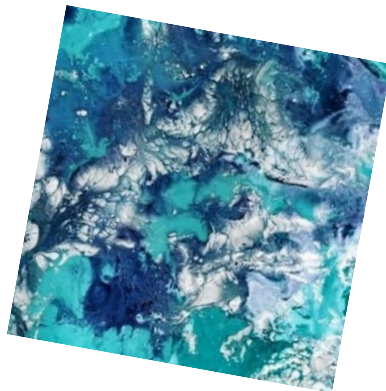
To make it more competitive, use a stopwatch to time the duration of each exercise (but make sure to stick to age-appropriate durations). It's about the fun and switching back and forth between the stations rather than aiming for the next world record

Even more fun is when adults join in the activities!



Marble effect painting

Real marbling takes quite a bit of effort and requires oil paints, tray, water and mess! Here's an easier version for children which still produces a very interesting effect. Check out these instructions on how to get started: <https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/marble-effect-painting>
Then... let your creative juices flow!



Make treasure from trash

Or 'rubbish' as we say in the UK – apologies for the Americanisation but it worked better for alliterative purposes!
(Does your child know what alliteration means?)

This activity encourages you to get creative and use your imagination. Make a pile of unused items that are otherwise heading for the bin – broken appliances, empty bottles, wrappers, etc.

Then, set a time limit (make this work for you) and challenge your child to create something new from the rubbish. Ask them to explain their invention and why it's useful. You could even go one step further and create an advertisement for your new product.



Play 'Minute to win it'

This is a classic party game that doesn't require a great deal of equipment - or many people.

Whilst playing the game is great fun, it also encourages us to be creative and find solutions to problems.

There are loads of ideas for rounds online but here's a few suggestions to get you started:

- Stack pennies on top of one another. Whoever has the tallest stack after 60 seconds wins.
- Using only your nose, you must push a ball across the floor (or around an obstacle course) from one end of the room to the other in less than 30 seconds.
- Tie an empty box of tissues around your waist and fill it with ping pong balls (or screwed up scrap paper). You have 60 seconds to shake all the ping pong balls out of the box without using your hands.
- Get a pair of chopsticks and a range of small objects. Set a time limit and challenge your child to move as many of the objects as possible from one container to another using only their hands. As well as being fun, this will help to improve your child's fine motor skills which in turns leads to improved handwriting.

Hand puppets

One for a rainy day, creating puppets, putting on puppet shows and talking to our creations is a timeless activity that has been enjoyed by countless generations. It's creative, great fun and highly entertaining.

Creating hand puppets like these ones is easy, too. All you need are some bits of felt and yarn (or old socks!), scissors, googly eyes and glue. There are lots of kits out there that make crafting puppets super easy or you can gather the supplies on your own and use odd socks.

