

Suggestions for activities to do at home during school closure (Reception)

In Reception we follow the children's interests and learn through play. Below we have listed some fun and hopefully exciting ideas for you to follow up with your children at your own pace. Ask your children what they already know about each topic. Please investigate further (if your child is really interested in the topic) and encourage deeper learning through books, research, role play, questioning, drawing and making as you see fit.

Space Invaders

Mission: Design and make a space environment (rocket, spaceship etc.). You may want to use big boxes, blankets, cushions...

Maths challenge – Can you make a control panel using numbers to 20? Cover a number one a time and see if you can still say your countdown to launch!

Writing challenge – Can you make a list of things you might spot in space? Don't forget to number each item in your list!

Creative challenge – Can you make some space jelly and add an alien? If you don't have any jelly cubes, perhaps you could paint and decorate your own moon rocks?

Moon rock science experiment: <http://www.learnplayimagine.com/2014/06/erupting-moon-rocks.html?m=1>

Seaside

Collect beach items that you might find on a beach (this might be from your home e.g. bucket, spade) and create a beach shop. You might like to use junk modelling to make a till and could use real coins inside your till.

Maths challenge – Can you make price labels for your items? Ask your grown-ups to come and buy items in your shop, can you help them work out which coins they need?

Writing challenge – Create a sign for your shop. Can you write labels for the things you are selling in your shop?

Creative challenge – What can you use to create a beach picture? You may want to use a photo memory you have of the beach to help you make your picture.

Sand play dough recipe: <https://frugalfun4boys.com/make-sand-play-dough-2/>

Nature

Go on a nature walk (could be around your garden) and find: something smooth, something pretty, something rough, something spikey, and something bright.

Maths challenge – Can you find a stick? Can you find something shorter than, longer than and the same size as your stick? How long is your stick? E.g. My stick is as long as 4 rose petals.

Writing challenge – Can you write a nature potion recipe? What ingredients did you find on your walk that you could add to your recipe?

Creative challenge – Find a spare jar or cup. Can you make a nature potion? You could use your stick to stir in the ingredients!

Nature paintbrush activity: <https://www.messylittlemonster.com/2015/07/stick-craft-nature-paintbrushes.html?m=1>

Summertime

What have you noticed now the weather has got warmer? Shadows, plants, greenery etc.

Maths challenge – What can you do with 10 petals, leaves, flowers, sticks? E.g. 3 petals and 2 petals make 5 petals – $3+2=5$

Writing challenge – Talk about what you noticed. Sound-talk and write some of these words on post-it notes together. Can you make a summertime poem using some of these words?

Creative challenge – Can you draw around your shadow on the floor? Talk about your features and add them to your shadow. You could also use your hands and fingers to create your own shadow puppet show!

Ice painting: <https://www.easypeasyandfun.com/painting-with-ice/>

Below is a list of other fun, playful experiences you may wish to enjoy together:

- Make homemade pizza
- Make an obstacle course
- Create your own story book
- Write and post a letter or postcard to a friend or family member
- Learn a new language
- Invent your own smoothie recipe and make it together
- Make a bug hotel in your garden
- Design a map for your own scavenger hunt
- Do a still life drawing of something in your garden
- Play board games
- Learn some yoga poses
- Create masks to act out a story
- Make sock puppets
- Have a teddy bear's picnic
- Make a kite and fly it
- Make a boat and test if it floats in water