

Half-Term Holiday Pack



MAY HALF TERM

May Half-Term Suggested Activities

Dear parents/carers,

We have continued to be so impressed with all the hard work children have put into their home learning activities this term. They have produced lots of wonderful work and we have loved seeing all of the photos.

In a similar way to before, we have created a holiday pack for the May half-term break with suggested activities to enjoy. There are lots of fun tasks for a range of ages, covering different curriculum areas.

At the end of the pack is a new Half-Term Challenge Diary that your child/children may like to complete as a record of their work. Will they reach the butterfly?

Please visit <https://www.bliss.northants.sch.uk/index.php/pupils/may-half-term-holiday-2020> to access the additional resources that accompany this pack as well as the videos for our virtual 'Read Aloud'!

Please also continue to tweet any photos, sharing all the great things you get up to (@BlissCharitySch).

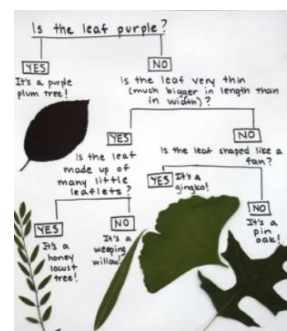


Science

- **Weather Station** – In the previous holiday pack, we suggested making your own rain gauge. Now go one step further and construct your own weather station in your garden. Make a chart and record the weather for a period of time and see how much it changes. You can also get more sophisticated with thermometers, barometers and anemometers, and even present your findings as a weather report. Visit: www.sunhatsandwellieboots.com.



- **Which Tree?** – Go tree spotting with our leaf identification guide. You'll be amazed how many different shapes and sizes you can find. Visit: www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/03/tree-id-kids/ for lots more fun, tree-related activities. For an extra challenge, why not make your own dichotomous classification key for trees (see our May half-term holiday website page for the resources linked to this activity).



- **Stargazing** – Turn astronomer and impress your friends with your knowledge of the night sky. Watch the stars at night with your family – wrap up nice and cosy and ask an adult to download a star app to help you identify different stars and constellations. Or visit the websites below to find out which planets are visible to the naked eye on a particular night. There is also information on viewings in the daytime too.



Visit: www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/night/uk/northampton or <https://earthsky.org/tonight>

- **Unicorn Noodles** – These amazing and edible unicorn noodles can transform from purple to blue or pink! See the separate 'Unicorn Noodles Science' sheet on our May half-term holiday website page for full instructions.

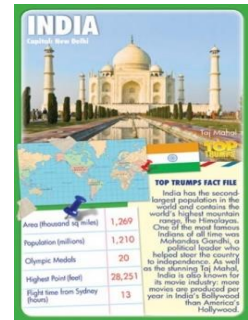


- **Scrumptious Slime** – This slime flows like a liquid but can be rolled like a solid – and the best part is that it's edible! Please note: this is an activity for children to do with parental permission due to the heating element. For full instructions, see the 'Make Your Own Scrumptious Slime' sheet on our May half-term holiday website page. Enjoy!



Geography

- **Top Trumps** – Make your own top trumps game for countries of the world. Research key facts and statistics for different countries. There is an editable card game template on our May half-term holiday website page. Some suggested facts include: size by area, population, Olympic medals, highest point in feet, and flight time from the UK etc.



- **Where in the World?** – Get the recipe of your favourite family food and find out what herbs and spices it contains. On a map, find the countries that produce those herbs and spices. Do some investigating to find out more about these countries. What kind of climates do these places have? Could you grow the same spices where you live? Why or why not?



- **Name a Country** – You could do this simple game at the dinner table. Each player takes it in turns to name a country, starting with A, then B, then C etc. If you get stuck, look through an atlas (available online) and discover a new part of the world. You could make the game more challenging by doing the same for capital cities and famous landmarks (quite tricky!), famous rivers, volcanoes, mountains, seas and so on.



- **Erupting Volcanoes** – Volcanic eruptions are one of the most powerful natural forces on our planet. Making your own miniature erupting volcano is a great, safe way to start learning about these incredible geological features. Follow the link below to watch a video about how to make a volcano model from household items, then stand back and watch it erupt! Visit: www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/how-to-make-a-volcano.html



- **Geography Hunt** – Look at the definition of human features and physical features on the 'Geography Features Hunt' sheet (this can be found on our May half-term holiday website page). Then look at the pictures to see examples of each. How many can you spot on a walk in your local area? You could make your own human and physical features scavenger hunt and see how many you can tick off on your walk.



History

- **British Museum** – The UK's famous museum in London has teamed up with Google Arts and Culture to throw open its virtual doors to visitors. The virtual tour allows visitors to explore different objects, from paintings and sculptures, to ancient artefacts from Australia and Egypt. Visit: www.goodtoknow.co.uk/family/best-virtual-tours-for-kids-536089



- **Family Tree** – Create a family tree to show the relationship between people in your family. A family tree helps us to tell our family story and share information about our past. There are lots of ways you can make one, from a simple tree (like the one shown here), to more detailed ones and family tree collages using different art materials. Use the following video to help you: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymlU3s6CFq0



- **Mary Seacole** – Every Thursday at 8pm, people all over the country clap on their doorsteps to show thanks to all the doctors and nurses for working so hard. Watch this short video to find out about a famous nurse from the past and why we still remember her today. Visit: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/english-ks1-ks2-english-victorians-life-of-mary-seacole/zj7vscw>



- **Interview Grandparents** – Find out what life was like for a grandparent when they were a child by carrying out an interview over the phone/video call. Use the 'Grandparent Interview Questions' sheet on our May half-term holiday website page to help you, or write your own questions. Remember to ask open questions that start with the words shown in the picture to the right. Maybe your grandparent(s) could share some photos of an event that happened a long time ago. How are photos a useful historical source? Do photographs have any limitations when finding out about the past?



- **History Walk** – Go on a walk in your local area and look closely at the buildings you see. How have houses changed over time? Look at the style of each house. Are the houses different shapes? What about the doors and windows? What materials are different parts of the houses made from? You could take paper with you and make a sketch of what you see or continue your research back at home by looking at how houses have changed over time. How far back you go in time is up to you – you might study Anglo-Saxon homes, medieval castles, Victorian homes etc.



Art and Crafts

- **Flower Fairies and Superheroes** – Collect leaves and petals. Use them to design flower fairies or superheroes. Petals and leaves can make great wings, capes, clothes or masks. You could even draw your favourites superhero and find natural objects that match the shape of their outfits.



- **Salt Dough Shapes** – Make salt dough shapes and decorations from everyday ingredients in your kitchen cupboards. Use your imagination to create all sorts of exciting objects (simple shapes do work best). Please note: the salt dough shapes are not edible. See the 'Salt Dough Shapes' sheet on our May half-term holiday website page for the full list of ingredients and instructions. Visit: www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/how-make-salt-dough-recipe



- **Design your own Birdfeeder** – Make your own birdfeeder from recycled materials. This one uses a juice carton. Make your shape and decorate. Varnish with PVA glue or normal varnish to make it longer lasting. Visit: www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/makes/bird-feeder



- **Fashion Designer** – Stencils, paint, old t-shirts – and go! You can tie-dye or use fabric markers/acrylic paint, but whatever you do, be prepared to wear your creation the next day. Tote bags also work well. For a slightly different way to upcycle your old clothes, follow the 'T-shirt Shoe Laces' instructions on our May half-term holiday website page to make some cool new shoe laces!

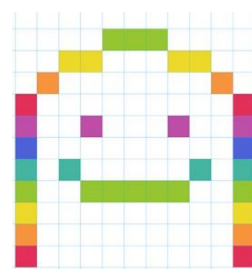


- **Nature Journal** – Record wildlife like a scientist with your very own natural journal. This short clip shows you how to make one using some paper and natural objects. Decorate the front cover to make it look really eye-catching. Visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EnmiuKqBXI



Music

- **Chrome Music Lab** – This fantastic free resource offers fun, hands-on experiments for exploring music. Song Maker lets you make and share your own songs. Other activities include teaching children about the concepts of chords and rhythm. You can play across devices – phones, tablets, laptops – just by opening the site on a web browser such as Chrome. Visit: <https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/Experiments>



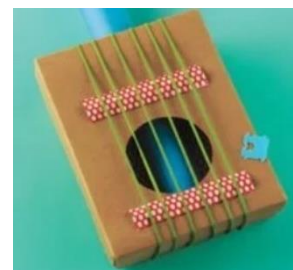
- **Ten Pieces at Home** – This BBC music resource opens up the world of classical music to children. Each week, there is a new Ten Pieces film to watch and enjoy, as well as a linked activity that can be completed by children at home without any special materials or preparation. Visit: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ten-pieces/watch-this-do-this-weekly-activities/zjy3382>



- **Meet the Orchestra** – Find out about each family of instruments by using the interactive features on the website below. For each family, you can click on the pictures to hear the instruments being played. You might use the information on this website to give you some ideas for the next activity too. Visit: www.classicsforkids.com/music/instruments_orchestra.php



- **DIY Musical Instruments** – Make your own musical instrument using recycled materials. You could make a shoe-box guitar like the one shown, using just a few basic materials. See the 'DIY Musical Instruments' sheet on our May half-term holiday website page for other musical instruments that you could make.



- **Download and Boogie!** – Listening to music and enjoying a dance can really help to lift spirits. The *kidadl* website below has compiled the 'Ultimate Lockdown Playlists' for kids by age. The suggestions have been grouped into preschool, KS1 and KS2 lists to make finding child-friendly content even easier. Maybe you could even hold your own family disco and challenge your parents to a dance-off! Visit: <https://blog.kidadl.com/articles/ultimate-lockdown-playlists-for-kids-by-age>



ICT

- **Paper Coding Treasure Hunt** – Do you have a favourite video game? Lots of people work together to create new video games. Software engineers (a type of electrical engineer) or other computer programmers must write the codes for the graphics and all the actions you can do in the game. In this activity, you will write a basic code, using logic similar to what software engineers use. See the 'Paper Coding Treasure Hunt' sheet on our May half-term holiday website page for instructions.

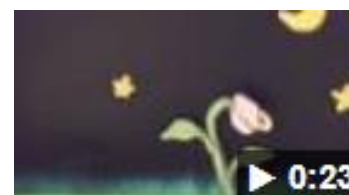


- **Scratch Junior/Scratch** – Building on the simple coding task above, you can develop your coding skills further with these free apps. Create your own interactive stories and games and have fun making characters using the interactive tools.

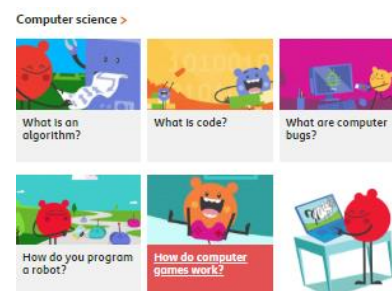


- **Stop Animation Play** – In the last pack, we included a tutorial for creating a stop animation film. Have a go at making an animation of a growing flower using play dough. Here is an example:

<https://youtu.be/UttWYQR0gaw>



- **BBC Bitesize Computing** – This website has a whole range of activities designed for KS1 and KS2. These include computer science, digital literacy and information technology. As well as providing lots of information about *how* computers work, there are games to play and fun quizzes too. Visit
 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zyhbwmn> (KS1)
 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zvnrq6f> (KS2)



- **Book Trailer on iMovie** – Create a book trailer using iMovie. Like a preview of a movie, be sure to gain the viewer's attention to make them interested in the book. The link below takes you to an online video tutorial to show you how to make one. Visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fk6cahQNwGQ



Reading

- **Virtual Read Aloud** – At Bliss, we hold a ‘Read Aloud’ at the end of every term ... and, once again, the school closure was not going to prevent us from doing this! Visit the school website (www.bliss.northants.sch.uk/index.php/pupils/may-half-term-holiday-2020) to watch adults from our school read a selection of free e-books! By logging onto Sora or Oxford Owl, you can finish the books we have chosen to share with you!



PSHE

- **Bowl of Kindness** – Create a bowl of kindness by writing down nice things to do for other members of your family. Every day, each member of the family gets to pick out one piece of paper and receive one nice treat.



- **Family Portraits** – Draw a picture of a member of your family that doesn't live with you. Underneath the picture, write down why they are special to you. Then ask your parents if they can send the picture to them.



- **E-Safety Poster** – At the moment, lots of children are playing online as a way of keeping in touch with their friends. Try to create an e-safety poster to make sure children are making sensible and informed decisions online.



- **Sun Safety** – As the weather improves, it's important to stay safe in the sun. Can you create a poster or leaflet to teach younger children how to stay safe in the sun? Make it bold, colourful and eye-catching to really get your important message across!



Outdoor Fun

- **Summer Bingo** – We've listed the signs of summer to look out for while you're enjoying the warmer, longer days. See the 'Signs of Summer Bingo Card' on our May half-term holiday website page.

green in full leaf	summer flowers blooming	fledglings learning to fly	butterflies all around
bats swooping in the woods	fluffy dandelion clocks	ribbled leaves	a soft feather
spotted ladybirds	a beetle chover	chirping grasshoppers	pollen on bees or flowers

- **Dinosaur/Fairy Garden** – Use an old flower pot, seed tray or any plastic container. Then use assorted pebbles and stones to decorate, create hills and mounds and then add your dinosaurs. Can you find natural materials that will match the colour of your dinosaurs and provide the best camouflage? Add vegetation for your plant eating herbivores. Alternatively, make a fairy garden. You could even use your setting to inspire some creative writing!



- **Bird-Spotting** – Visit the Woodland Trust page below to hear the different songs and calls of birds then go and sit very quietly in your garden to see if you can hear any? Can you match the bird to their call? You could try different times of the day (or even different locations when out on a local walk).

Visit: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/04/identify-bird-song/>



- **Water Fun** – Set up an area with different size buckets at different distances and make it a challenge to score points depending on who gets the most in water in which buckets! Or try moving a plastic cup along a piece of string with the water squirter!



- **Camp Out** – Have a camp-out in the garden or indoors. Put up a tent (or a pop-up one inside) and add sleeping bags, favourite teddies, torches and some great books. You could even make your own yummy picnic too!



My Half-Term Challenge Diary

Record each challenge you complete by writing it down, drawing a picture or inserting a photo in each box. Will you reach the butterfly?

The diagram consists of eight empty rectangular boxes with rounded corners, arranged in a circular pattern. The boxes are connected by arrows indicating a clockwise flow. The flow is as follows:

- Box 1 (top center) connects to Box 2 (middle right) via a right-pointing arrow.
- Box 2 connects to Box 3 (middle left) via a downward-pointing arrow.
- Box 3 connects to Box 4 (bottom right) via a left-pointing arrow.
- Box 4 connects to Box 5 (bottom left) via a downward-pointing arrow.
- Box 5 connects to Box 6 (top left) via a right-pointing arrow.
- Box 6 connects to Box 7 (middle right) via a downward-pointing arrow.
- Box 7 connects to Box 8 (middle left) via a left-pointing arrow.
- Box 8 connects to Box 1 via a downward-pointing arrow.

Small illustrations are placed between the boxes to represent the life stages:

- Between Box 1 and Box 2: A green leaf with several small white eggs.
- Between Box 2 and Box 3: A green caterpillar.
- Between Box 3 and Box 4: A green chrysalis hanging from a brown twig.
- Between Box 4 and Box 5: A monarch butterfly with orange and black wings, perched on a pink flower.

Additional Ideas

Here is a list of websites for additional activities to those suggested in this booklet:

<https://chatterpack.net/blogs/blog/resources-list-for-home-learning>

Science

<https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning/primary>

<https://www.scienceforkidsclub.com/experiments.html>

<https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/>

Geography

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/>

<https://world-geography-games.com/>

History

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/teacher-category/history/>

<https://www.historyforkids.net/>

Art and crafts

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids>

<https://artprojectsforkids.org/>

Music

<https://www.classicsforkids.com/>

<https://www.nyphilkids.org/>

ICT

<https://code.org/>

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Outdoor Fun

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/03/kids-nature-activities-self-isolation/>

<https://outdoorclassroomday.org.uk/resources/lesson-ideas/>

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/50-things-to-do>

Online Safety

There are a range of resources on our school website to help parents/carers support their children online. At a time when we are all accessing digital platforms more frequently, it is so important to help young people manage their online choices and behaviours.

Please visit www.bliss.northants.sch.uk/index.php/parents/internet-safety-2 to access the resources produced by *Northamptonshire County Council's* Online Safety and Wellbeing Officer.

