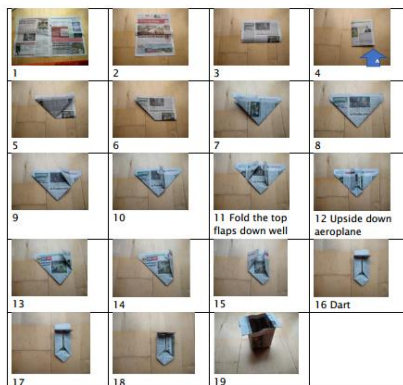


Paper Plant Pots

Spring is well on its way and there's no better time to get ready for planting all of your favourite seeds. Why not get ready by having a go at these simple newspaper plant pots?

Maybe you could plant a pip the next time you enjoy an apple. Or some seeds from your tomato or pepper if you dry them out first on some tissue - it really works!

Find a simple tutorial here -
<https://familygardenlife.com/learn-make-origami-seed-raising-paper-pots/>



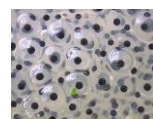
Frogspawn

Frogspawn and toadspawn usually starts to appear in February and March. Look just below the surface of the water in ponds and streams, especially amongst reeds in the water's edge. You might also be lucky enough to see a frog or a toad if you search damp, dark places of your garden.

Do you know the life cycle of a frog? Research the four stages of a frog's life-cycle and then create your own version.

Perhaps you could draw the cycle in chalk in your garden, or use natural materials to make pictures to show each stage - maybe lots of tiny pebbles on a leaf could show frogspawn. You could even make a hat using paper with the four stages of a frog's life cycle stuck on.

For an extra challenge research the difference between a toad and a frog. How do we tell the difference between their spawn?



World Book Day

Celebrate World Book day in style by spending the week getting outside with literacy inspired activities.

You could:

- Read your favourite book outside in the fresh air.
- Be inspired by the world outside... take a walk and then write an acrostic poem describing all the amazing things you have seen, heard or touched.
- Make your favourite book character using things you have collected from your garden. How cool would a Gruffalo made from sticks look?
- Search your garden for some creepy crawlies and then write a diary entry as if you were them. (It was a quiet Monday morning and I was out for my daily wriggle when all of a sudden an almighty thump came down in front of my nose. Of course, I couldn't see what it was as I have no eyes...)



Make a Bridge

Your challenge is to make a bridge that can go across a gap that is at least 30cm long. If it's been raining, you could try to build your bridge across a puddle.

You can only use materials that you find outside and string.

Think about the materials you have in your garden and how you could join them together to make a stable bridge.

You could use sticks and tie them together in bundles or perhaps find some large pebbles and practise your stone balancing skills in order to create your supports. Can you balance anything in the centre of your bridge? How much weight can it hold?



Build a Tower

Can you make a tall tower using only materials you find outside?
Perhaps you can stack sticks or balance stones or maybe you could use mud and leaves to create your own cement.

Test out lots of different natural materials - which works best?

Which material allowed you to make the tallest tower? Which tower was the most stable?

If you don't have a ruler or tape measure at home, how else can you measure your towers in order to compare their height?



Create a Shelter

Make a mini waterproof shelter using only natural materials. Try to collect things from around your garden that you think would keep the inside of your shelter warm and dry.

To test your full-sized shelter, stand inside and get someone to pour a bucket of water over the top! To test your mini shelter put some tissue or cotton wool into your shelter and water it using a watering can. You can then easily see if your wool or tissue gets wet!

Who do you think would live in your shelter?
Would you like to live in your shelter?



Washing Line Number Line

Use your washing line to create your very own number line!

Write your numbers down on some scrap pieces of paper and peg them to your line. If you wanted to you could even write your numbers onto leaves and peg these on instead! Make sure you write your numbers the correct way round.

You could make a number line from 0 - 20 or maybe you might like to make 0 - 100 counting in tens, or 0 - 50 counting in 5s.

You could ask someone at home to write you some addition and subtraction sentences and then use your new number line to help you find the answer.



Estimation Contest

Challenge someone at home to an Estimation Contest!

Start by deciding on the challenge and then both making your estimations. Perhaps you could write them down so you can easily see who was closest. You could estimate...

- how many stones you can fit in your hands.
- how many worms you could find in one minute
- how many daisies there are on your lawn
- how many leaves there are on one branch of a tree
- how many birds you could spot in 2 minutes

You could even just grab handfuls of natural materials, put them in front of you and then give yourself 5 seconds to write down an estimate of how many you think there are. You could do this with sticks, stones, blades of grass, leaves, petals etc.

Spring Flower Hunt

Warmer weather is on its way and the first signs of Spring are poking their heads just above ground.

Take a walk in your local area and see how many spring flowers you can spot.

At this time of year they are so important as a source of food for many creatures that are emerging after a long, cold winter - so remember not to pick them!

Look closely though as you might see some insects visiting these flowers.

Which was your favourite and why?



<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Spotter-Guide/Spring-flower-spotter>

