

Challenge 2020



Rustle, Bustle & Squeak 2020 Challenge Sheet

Have you been looking at the list of issues that came out of the Future Girl activities we have been enjoying in our units? Plastic pollution was a big topic last term and nature is really benefitting from the high profile that has been given to the misuse of plastic and the changes we can all make.

The Rustle, Bustle & Squeak 2020 Challenge is aimed at helping 'Planet Protectors', 'Adventurers', 'Self Believers' and 'Respect Makers' to work for the good of the world. It is all about our love of the outdoors and offers ways to enjoy nature and at the same time protect our planet. We can appreciate how working outdoors and watching what goes on in the animal world helps us develop individually – to be 'Self Believers'. When we work together on the Challenge, we can appreciate everybody's contribution, listen to each other's views and be 'Respect Makers'.

The 2020 Challenge contains five different activities which can be completed in your unit or on your own at home or with family and friends. The special badge is available from the Region's online shop and we recommend this is awarded when two of the activities have been started.

So go on, have a go! Be an 'Adventurer' and enjoy yourself!

Activity

Water

Water is a very important for wildlife, and birds and animals like to know where they can find it. You can easily make a drinking area in your garden by burying a dish, large plant saucer, or perhaps a small metal bowl in the ground so that its lip is level with the soil around it. You can put stones or rocks around the edge so that the birds and animals can get to the water easily and if there is room in the bowl you could put a large rock in it – you may find a frog will turn up to live under it! If you could plant some bulbs or seeds around the dish, the plants would make a good hiding place for the shy birds who come to visit.



Activity



Spend 10 minutes with nature

Try some of these different ideas:

- Stand still for 10 minutes – don't forget your timer! What can you hear, smell, feel and taste? You can write it down as you go, or take turns to tell each other when your time is up.
- Take a piece of string and wrap it around some twigs stuck into the ground to make a small area to watch for 10 minutes. Lie down if you can, so that you are at the same level as any insects which are passing through.
- Use a magnifying glass to take a closer look at a fallen log or a crack in a pavement or wall, or at a flower.
- Use air-dry clay, Play-Doh or modelling clay to model what you see, or press things into the clay and make patterns with different textures.
- Use paper and crayons to make rubbings of leaves or bark or anything else you find. Don't forget to label the rubbings!
- Take a picture – what can you do with the pictures?



Activity



Plant something

- When you go outside you should be able to find lots of seeds from trees and bushes that have been scattered over the year. Collect a selection and plant them into containers – you could re-use plastic ones or use empty egg boxes, or make pots from newspaper. Put the pots somewhere safe so that you can keep them watered and when the seeds start to shoot you can re-plant them where you found them.
- Do you have a piece of ground somewhere near your meeting place that you could plant up? If it doesn't belong to anyone and looks abandoned you could tidy it up and plant a few seeds. It doesn't need to be a big piece of ground – a grass verge or the corner of a car park would do. Passers-by would really appreciate a bright patch to look at – but do make sure you get permission from any landowners first!



Activity



Feed the birds

Birds need food and water all the year round so it is difficult to start feeding them and not stop! There are lots of websites, magazines and books that will show you how to make bird feeders and what to fill them with. You will probably need to experiment to see what the birds in your area will eat – some like bird feeders on the ground, others prefer them hung up. Sometimes animals such as squirrels will like the bird food too – possibly a bit too much – so you will have to work out what is best for them all. Once you have started putting out food, do keep it up because the birds will be expecting it.



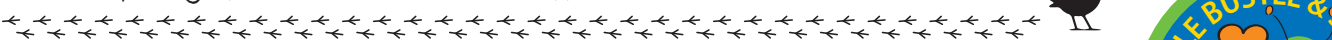
Activity



Make an ecosystem

We have produced a page of instructions on how to make a simple ecosystem which can be downloaded from the Region's Website, www.girlguidingsouthwest.org.uk

If you want to have a go at making a more complex system, or an aquatic system, there are plenty of other websites that will offer instructions.



Girlguiding South West England,
St Ann's Manor, 6-8 St Ann St,
Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2DN
01722 329306
swehq@ggswe.org.uk
www.girlguidingsouthwest.org.uk

