

Hi everyone!

It was so lovely to see you all last Tuesday, even if only from a distance. Shame the weather spoiled PE but there's always next week.

I was really interested to hear what some of you had been up to and it got me thinking.....! You know I've mentioned most of the things I enjoyed doing at your age were outdoor activities like going for bike rides, having picnics in fields, walking for miles and miles and so on. Well, some of you may know that the National Trust has a list of 50 things to do before you are 11 $\frac{3}{4}$! As most of you are 10 now (and a big happy birthday to all those I missed during lockdown and those of you who have still to celebrate), I thought you might like to have a look at the list and see which ones you've done and which you haven't. Don't worry, there's still at least a year to go for most of you, including the long summer holidays that are coming up very soon.

50 things to do before you're 11 $\frac{3}{4}$

How many have you done?

We've been working closely with kids just like you to put together this list of the best things to do before you're 11 $\frac{3}{4}$. (Although lots of them are still great fun even when you're 81 $\frac{3}{4}$.) You'll find fun things to do for every kind of outside place, from mountains to sea, forests to fields. So what are you waiting for? Get out there and see how many you can do!

1. Get to know a tree
2. Roll down a really big hill
3. Camp outdoors
4. Build a den
5. Skim a stone
6. Go welly wandering
7. Fly a kite
8. Spot a fish
9. Eat a picnic in the wild
10. Play conkers
11. Explore on wheels
12. Have fun with sticks
13. Make a mud creation
14. Dam a stream
15. Go on a wintry adventure
16. Wear a wild crown
17. Set up a snail race
18. Create some wild art
19. Play pooh sticks
20. Go paddling
21. Forage for wild food
22. Find some funky fungi
23. Get up for the sunrise
24. Go barefoot
25. Join nature's band
26. Hunt for fossils and bones
27. Go stargazing
28. Climb a huge hill
29. Explore a cave
30. Go on a scavenger hunt
31. Make friends with a bug
32. Float in a boat
33. Go cloud watching
34. Discover wild animal clues
35. Discover what's in a pond
36. Make a home for wildlife
37. Explore the wonders of a rock pool
38. Bring up a butterfly
39. Catch a crab
40. Go on a nature walk at night
41. Help a plant grow
42. Go swimming in the sea
43. Help a wild animal
44. Watch a bird
45. Find your way with a map
46. Clamber over rocks
47. Cook on a camp fire
48. Keep a nature diary
49. Watch the sunset
50. Take a friend on a nature adventure

Now I bet most of you can say you've seen a fish swimming in a river, watched some birds in your garden or helped a plant to grow, but some of the other activities might be a little harder, so here are a few of my suggestions to tick some of these off:

5. Skim a stone – ask an adult to help you do this, it takes a bit of practice. Hythe beach is a good place to start on a calm day. Choose a flat stone and see how many times you can make it bounce.

7. Fly a kite – my daughter and I have had a lot of fun flying her kite during lockdown. If you haven't got a kite, you can make one easily with a few household items. Follow the instructions here to have a go: <https://www.countryfile.com/how-to/crafts/how-to-make-a-kite/> Don't forget to send in your photos!

12. Have fun with sticks – whenever we go for walks in the woods, we always play the ‘biggest stick’ competition which is as simple as it sounds. Find the biggest stick you can and have your photo taken with it!

14. Whilst we are on the subject of sticks, and with your collected sticks, try and build a dam in a small stream. Think like a beaver! What’s the most efficient way to build a dam with as few sticks as possible? See what you can do, I know what good engineers you all are!

16. and 18. Wear a wild crown – remember we’re not allowed to pick wild flowers, but there are lots of grasses that have died back in the hot sun of last week. What could you make with them?

I think you get the idea! I’m going to leave the rest up to you, but please do let Mr Harlow, Mrs Neall and I know how you get on 😊

Here are a few photos of the Farrar outdoor activities from the last few months including our new pond, bug hotel, butterfly house and bird box! We had a family of blue tits who successfully fledged at the beginning of June and a frog has moved in to the pond 😊



Bye for now,

Love Mrs Farrar xxx