

THE HIVE'S CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY CLUB

SUMMER 2026

NATURE & THE ENVIRONMENT



30 Days Wild 2026

KS 1, 2 & 3

The UK's biggest nature challenge!

**CU Learning Provider:
The Wildlife Trusts**

We challenge you to do one wild thing a day throughout the month of June! That's 30 simple, fun and exciting Random Acts of Wildness.

When you [sign up](#), you'll get a free pack of goodies to help you plan your wild month, plus lots of ideas to inspire you to stay wild all throughout June (and beyond!).

Categories:

Outdoor learning, Family learning & Nature and the environment

Skills:

Problem solving & Planning

All Age

0.5 credits per activity

OR

you can choose the Paw Print Challenge Pack for 30 Days Wild:

In order to complete this challenge, download the [challenge pack](#). Select and complete the relevant number of activities for your age group, as shown on the cover of the download.

Categories:

Outdoor learning, Family learning & Nature and the environment

2 credits

Butterfly Count 2026

<https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/about>

KS 1, 2 & 3

The Big Butterfly Count is a nationwide citizen science survey aimed at helping us assess the health of our environment. It was launched in 2010 and has rapidly become the world's biggest survey of butterflies. Did you know in the New Forest and Southampton area over 3400 people took part!

How it works

The Big Butterfly Count 2026 reopens on the 1st of July ready for the main event between the 17th of July and 9th of August.

Simply count butterflies for 15 minutes during bright (preferably sunny) weather during the Big Butterfly Count. We have chosen this time of year because most butterflies are at the adult stage of their lifecycle, so more likely to be seen. Records are welcome from anywhere: from parks, school grounds and gardens, to fields and forests.

If you are counting from a fixed position in your garden, count the maximum number of each species that you can see at a single time. For example, if you see three Red Admirals together on a buddleia bush then record it as 3, but if you only see one at a time then record it as 1 (even if you saw one on several occasions) - this is so that you don't count the same butterfly more than once.

iRecord Butterflies is a free app that will guide you through the identification of any butterfly that you see in the UK and allow you to add your sighting to millions of other valuable records that inform the work of Butterfly Conservation.

Categories:

Outdoor learning, Family learning & Nature and the environment

Skills:

Planning & Teamwork

6 Credits



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ARTS

KS 1, 2 & 3

CU Learning Provider:

Ootiboo

<https://play.ootiboo.com/projects/summercraft>

Summer Craft

SummerCraft is Ootiboo's brand new competition for any age, anywhere, celebrating all things summertime! Create something in response to one of the themes using any medium and share it with us to have your work added to the gallery and a chance to win a prize!

Think about what summer means to you.

For this competition you can choose any subject matter you like, so long as it relates to summertime.

Some potential ideas could be:

The colours of summer: Everything looks and feels more vibrant in the summer sun! You could create a piece that showcases the bold colours that are often associated with the season.

Summer holidays: Schools out! Could you create an artwork that showcases where you go (or would like to go!) during your summer break?

The beach: If you're lucky enough to be visiting a beach this summer, could you build something from sand, or draw something into it?

Summer in winter: In the Southern Hemisphere, the seasons are reversed. So while it is summer in the UK (where Ootiboo is based) it is winter in places like Brazil and Australia! Could your artwork depict this in some way?

Eco: Perhaps you could base your idea on something to do with ecology, such as the importance of insect habitats?

These are just ideas to get you started. If you'd prefer to base your summer creation on something completely different, that's absolutely fine.

Categories: **Art, Culture, Music**

Skill: **Creativity**

1 Credit

The Children's University May Half Term Challenge Sheet

CU Learning Provider: **CU Trust**

Gain up to 5 new stamps this Half Term by completing Children's University's Half Term Challenge. With activities that will get you learning all sorts of new things, this challenge will be a great way to keep busy!

Access the challenge sheet here

<https://www.childrensuniversity.co.uk/media/1633/may-half-term-challenge-sheet-2026.pdf>

Categories: **Arts, culture and music, Science, technology, engineering and maths, Nature and the environment**

Skills: **Speaking, Creativity, Planning**

PET THEMED ONLINE FAMILY COURSES

CU Learning Provider: **Woodgreen's online family learning courses**

Woodgreen's online family learning courses are designed for families to learn together in the comfort of their own home, about a range of pets. Topics include mice, hamsters, cats, chickens, rabbits, guinea pigs and dogs. All courses are completely self led and include interactive quizzes and videos to help families understand everything a pet needs to be healthy and happy.

<https://woodgreen.org.uk/courses/>

Categories: **Family learning, Nature and the environment, Online**

Skills: **Listening, Creativity, Teamwork**

Credits **1.5**

