

February Half Term Home Learning Challenges 2021

5 fun, home learning activities, crafts and games to enjoy with your family

Collect 1 CU credit per activity with your Passport to Learning. Remember to complete and return your Learning Reflection Diary to claim your credits!



February Challenge: #DrawWithRob

Drawing is a really great activity – it helps you to relax, it gets your creative juices flowing, and helps you to focus in on something calming for a while. There are lots of different types of drawing, but today's challenge will help you to learn some top tricks of the trade from a professional cartoon artist.

You will need:

- Plain paper
- Pencil
- Pencil crayons

Lots of people think and say, "I can't draw" (us included!), but grab some paper and a pencil, click on the link below, and learn step-by-step from Rob Biddulph on his YouTube channel!

Step 1: Grab your paper and a pencil.

Step 2: Ask an adult to help you click on the link below on a device (mobile phone, tablet, laptop or smart TV is fine), but be prepared to keep pausing and unpausing the video so you can follow Rob's drawings step-by-step.

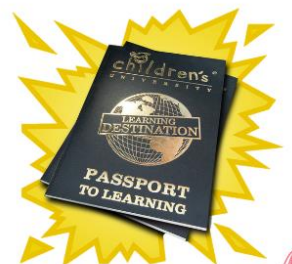
<http://www.robbiddulph.com/draw-with-rob>

Step 3: Choose which drawing you'd like to do. Scroll through Rob's page, choose your picture and click on the link. The first one (a dinosaur called Gregosaurus) is a good one to start with as Rob introduces himself, but feel free to choose any you like.

Step 4: Get drawing! We'd like you to have a go at at least three different drawings, but why not have a go at all of them if you have time? Maybe one a day over the next week? We can't wait to see your creations!



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February Challenge: Banana Bread!

Lockdown has seen a huge number of people start baking at home, and LOADS of people have tried baking banana bread! It's really quick, easy to do and doesn't need lots of equipment or ingredients either. So, wash your hands, and let's get baking!

You will need:

- 3 ripe bananas, mashed
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- ¼ cup melted butter
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- A baking tin (9"x5" but anything similar will be fine)

Step 1: Preheat your oven to 165 degrees C (325 degrees F). Grease a 9x5-inch loaf tin.

Step 2: Mix your bananas, sugar, egg, and butter together in a bowl.

Step 3: Mix your flour and baking soda together in a separate bowl. Stir it into the banana mixture until the batter is just mixed. Stir the salt into batter.

Step 4: Pour the batter into your prepared loaf tin.

Step 5: Bake in the oven for about an hour. It should be baked until you can stick a knife or fork into the centre and when you pull it out, it comes out clean (with no raw mixture on it).

Step 6: Leave it to cool a little, then slice and enjoy. It's lovely served just a little warm with a warm drink, or with some ice cream or cream!



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February Challenge: Julia Donaldson

We're pretty sure you'll all have heard of at least one of the fantastic story books created by the brilliant Julia Donaldson? Which is your favourite? The Gruffalo? A Squash and a Squeeze perhaps? Maybe even Room on the Broom? We love them all! If you haven't yet read them, why not order them from Sheffield Libraries, so you can 'click and collect' to borrow and read them? If you're not yet a Sheffield library member, follow this link here: <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/libraries-archives/join-the-library.html> It's FREE to join, and also gives you access to thousands more ebooks, emagazines, etc. that you can download for free!

But this challenge is a little bit special. Julia Donaldson has worked with the amazing illustrator Axel Scheffler to bring us some unique, special edition illustrated rhymes all relating to the Coronavirus – lockdown, learning at home and even the vaccine are all examples of how Julia Donaldson has turned a current situation into a rhyme. We've included some as examples on the next page. We'd love for you to have a go at making up your own rhymes, using famous characters from a book. You can use Julia Donaldson's characters or others from one of your own favourites books – it's up to you.

You will need:

- Paper
- Pencil
- Colouring pens/pencils

Step 1: Decide which book character you want to use for your rhyme.

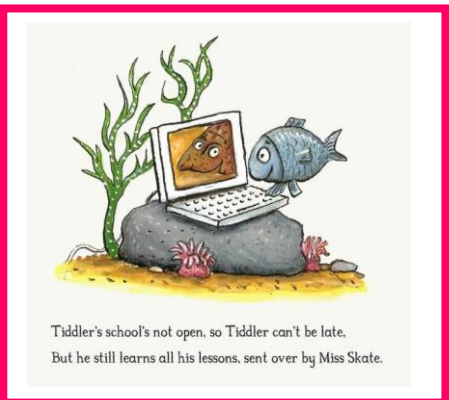
Step 2: Think about something Which has changed for you over the last year. Perhaps it's learning at home, or learning in a bubble at school. Maybe it's having to stay at home. How about having to catch up with friends on Zoom? How about wearing a face covering? But it could also be something about spending more time with family? Have you been playing more games together? Have you found this fun? Or, could your rhyme be about having to spend more time stuck indoors? It's up to you!

Step 3: Try and write some key words down that are linked to your idea. For example, for 'staying at home', your words might be 'bored', 'crazy', 'cook', 'games', 'learn', 'Zoom', 'Google', 'classroom', 'friends', 'walls', 'inside', etc.

Step 4: Try and write a short sentence (about a maximum of 10 words) about your subject. Next, try and write another sentence which rhymes with the end of the first one. Don't worry if you can't do it straight away. You might need to play around with the words a little until you get some to rhyme together. Don't worry if you can't get them to rhyme though, it's not essential! An example might be...

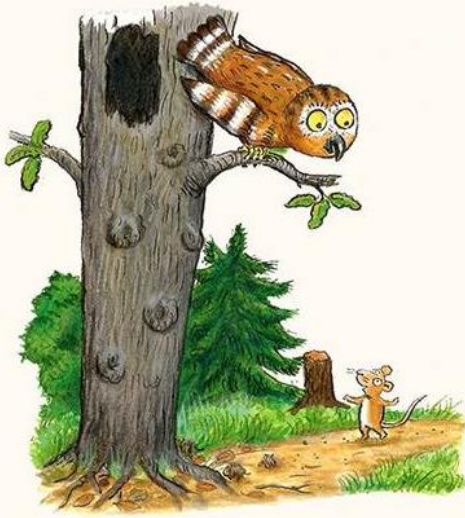
'The Gruffalo's Child laid bored on his bed. 'I know', he thought, 'I'll bake banana bread'!

Step 5: Can you write your sentences neatly on a piece of paper? Perhaps you could even try and draw your character doing something to match your sentence?



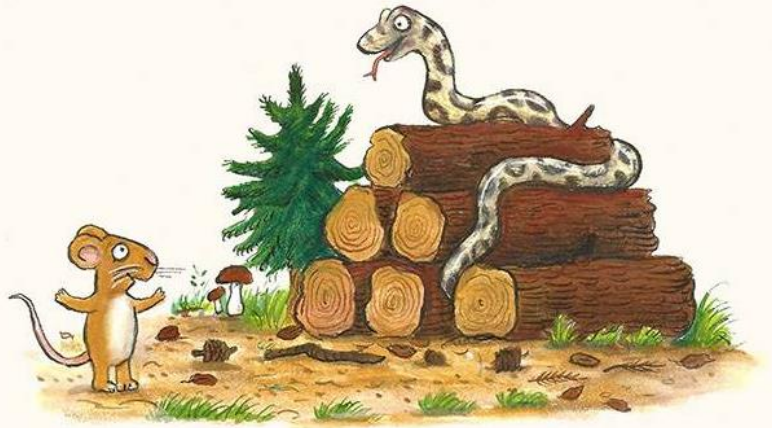
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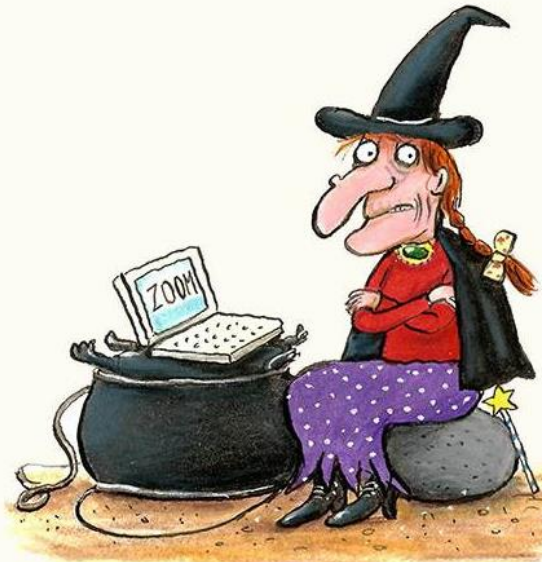
"Where are you going to, little brown mouse?
Come and have tea in my treetop house."
"But I don't want a fine, and your tree might be
Outside of my exercise boundary."

"Where are you going to, little brown mouse?
Come for a feast in our logpile house."

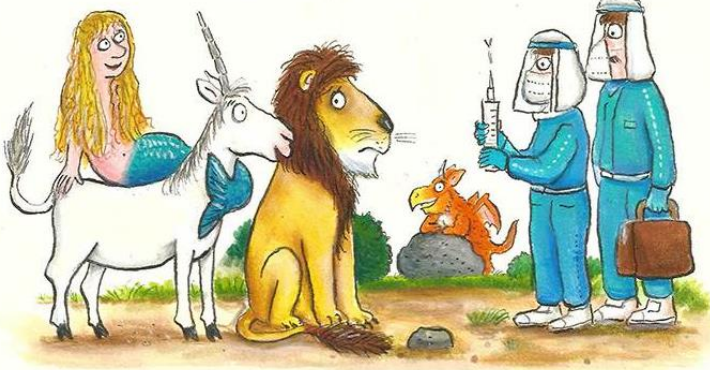


"I wish I could visit your house of sticks
But sadly, two households may not mix."

Finding your mum was a whole lot of trouble.
How can you be bored with your family bubble?



Iggety, ziggety, zaggety, ZOOM -
I wish there was somebody real in my room.



Here come the Flying Doctors - joy and jubilation!
The mermaid, lion and unicorn will get the vaccination.

For more ideas, have a look at the other special
edition images...

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2021/january/julia-donaldson-and-axel-scheffler-brighten-lockdown-with-more-new-coronavirus-pictures/>

Artwork and verses © Axel Scheffler
and Julia Donaldson

February Challenge: Hopscotch!

Hopscotch is a traditional playground game for children – have you played before? Or maybe, you've seen a hopscotch game marked out on the floor but never known how to play? You only need some space to play, some way of marking out the area and a small object to throw. So, here's a challenge to get you hopscotching either for the first time, or with some different ways to play for you more experienced children (and adults!). Here's the classic game first...

You will need:

- Somewhere to mark out the game on the floor (outdoors or indoors)
- Chalk or a stone or tape
- A marker (stone or other object)

Step 1: Draw a traditional hopscotch diagram like the one in the picture (chalk is best for the pavement outdoors but you might find that a stone will make a good enough mark. If you're playing inside, you could use tape)

Step 2: Throw a small stone, twig, beanbag, or other marker into the first square. (If it lands on a line, or outside the square, you lose your turn. Pass the marker to the following player and wait for your next turn.)

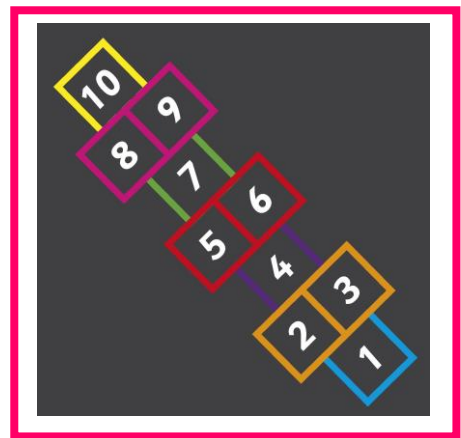
Step 3: Hop on one foot into the first empty square, and then every empty square after that. Just make sure you skip the one your marker is on.

Step 4: When you get to the pairs of numbers (2-3, 5-6, 8-9), jump with both feet, one in each square.

Step 5: At number 10, land as a jump with both feet in the square. Then make your way back to the start in the same way (hop on single numbers, jump for the paired numbers).

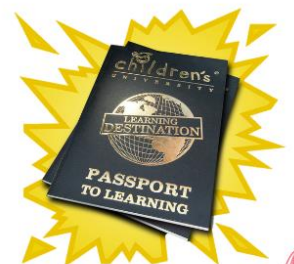
Step 6: When you reach the square with your marker in, pick up the marker—still on one foot (don't wobble over!)—and complete the course, back to the start.

Step 7: If you finished without any mistakes, pass the marker to the next player. On your next turn, throw the marker to the next number. If you fall, or jump outside the lines, or miss a square or don't pick up the marker, you lose your turn and must repeat the same number on your next turn. Whoever reaches 10 first, wins.



To make things a little more challenging, try these suggestions...**Watch the Time:** Set a timer for 30 seconds. Each player must complete the course within the time frame to proceed. If you go into overtime, you lose your turn. **Sign on the Line:** Instead of throwing the marker in order of the numbers, throw it in any square. When you complete a successful turn, write your initials or name in the square where your marker landed and pass it to the next player. The game ends when all spaces have been signed. The person with the most signed squares wins. **Kick It:** Try kicking the marker from space to space—with your hopping foot—as you jump through the course.

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February Challenge: Snow Fluff!

Most of us have already seen two lots of snow since Christmas, but here's an experiment so you can make your own snow at any time of the year!

You will need:

- 1 cup corn flour
- 1 cup shaving cream
- Food colouring

Step 1: Pour the cup of corn flour into a large bowl. Use a spoon to scoop the shaving cream on top of it.

Step 2: Put 5-10 drops of food colouring on top. Stir to mix.

Step 3: When the mixture looks like grated cheese, use your hands to squish the mixture even more. Pretty soon the shaving cream and corn flour will form a ball, about the same texture as dough. If your mixture is really wet and sticky after mixing, it needs a little more corn flour. If it won't stick together and falls into pieces, add a little more shaving cream.

Step 4: That's it! Try sculpting snow angels, snowmen, or make a tiny snow fort!



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Sheffield CU Home Learning Challenges: Reflection Diary



If you choose to complete one or more of our Home Learning Challenges that we share – well done! We can't wait to see what you've been learning and creating! If you attend a Sheffield school, you can earn CU credits for completing them. To claim your CU credits, please fill in the table below and email a copy of this sheet to CU@sheffield.gov.uk with the evidence of each challenge we have asked for (e.g. photos, video, scanned copies of written work, etc.). Please save the evidence from all your completed challenges, and send it all together!



Child's name: _____ **Child's date of birth:** ____ / ____ / ____

Child's SHEFFIELD school attended: _____ **CU Passport to Learning No:** _____

Date completed	Name of challenge	What I learned by completing this challenge (list at least 3 things!)	What I enjoyed most about this challenge	Total number of credits earned in the activity

I consent to the Sheffield Children's University (CU) Team using the information provided on this form to track my child's participation in extra-curricular activities, and subsequently to award CU credits. I understand this data will be stored securely and only shared with other Council services and schools where appropriate. I also understand that I can request that my child's information is deleted at any point, and that I can find more information on how Sheffield CU uses my child's data by reading the Privacy Notice on their website: www.sheffield.gov.uk/cu

Signed (Parent/Carer): _____

