

Home Schooling Activity Ideas

Keep your patience, even when children are crabby or difficult. We are the adults. **KEEP CALM & CARRY ON!**

1. Non-Standard Measures: Use non-standard measures to measure the house, yard, garden, corridor, lounge, kitchen, bedrooms, furniture, etc.
 - Non-standard measures are measures that may be different sizes / are not technically accurate.
 - Most common non-standard measures are:
 - Spans: distance from thumb tip to little fingertip of an out-spread hand
 - Strides: length from toe of one foot to toe of other foot on a long, but comfortable, stride.
 - Ask children, which would be best for measuring the yard? Which would be best for the garden chair?
 - Help children to measure their span and stride in standard measures – metres or centimetres.
 - Can they work out the actual lengths and widths in metres / cm (approximately) by multiplying e.g.
 - My desk = 5 spans of my hand.
 - My span is 20cm.
 - My desk is 5 x 20 cm.
 - Can they work out the area of things by multiplying? e.g.
 - My desktop is 5 spans long and 2 ½ spans wide.
 - My span is 20cm.
 - The area of my desktop is 5 spans X 2 ½ spans or 100cm x 50cm.
 - $100 \times 50 = 5,000$.
 - The area of my desktop is 5,000 square centimetres or 0.5 square metres.
 - Don't do too many of these a day, it could be a longer-term project doing 2 or 3 areas once a week.

- Revisiting learning helps children to learn it properly, for ever.
 - Measure new things daily or weekly in non-standard measures.
- 2.** Wax Resist: make a wax resist painting of a flower from the garden, a portrait of a family member, or a pet (done from a photograph?), or an animal of your choice.
- Get wax crayons, one colour of water colour or thin poster colour paint (add water) and A4 white paper.
 - Draw the picture in wax crayon, pressing hard. Do NOT colour it all in but do shade some parts.
 - Do a patterned background if you wish, in lines only, pressing hard.
 - Get the thickest paint brush you have and paint the colour you chose from left to right, top to bottom, smoothly over the whole sheet of paper. Your wax drawing should show through. If it does not show either the wax wasn't pressed hard enough or the paint is too thick.
- 3.** Which countries of the world would you find the following in?
- The Eiffel Tower | Sydney Opera House | Kremlin | Taj Mahal | The Shard | Burj Khalifa | Forbidden City | World Tower | York Minster | St. Peter's Basilica | Leaning Tower of Pisa | Great Pyramid
 - Can you look at these buildings on the internet, choose 2 or more that are very different, and make very careful drawings of them both side by side. Remember to put the names and countries on?
- 4.** Can you find out the proper name for Eskimos?
- Make a study of Eskimos that includes:
 - Their homes.
 - What they eat.
 - How they fish.
 - Their clothes.
 - A map to show whereabouts in the world they live.

5. Can you make a list of all the words you know that rhyme with 'day'? e.g. 'say'

- Now make up a poem about some silly or serious things that you would like to do today.
- You can make every line rhyme by having a rhyming word at the end of every line, or you can make alternate lines rhyme. I have put a list and a model poem at the end.
- Read your poems out loud when you have finished.

6. Can you make a dressing doll from white card? I usually make them about 15cm tall.

- Look at the party dress and the party suit. They have tabs on the shoulders.
- The suit has tabs on the hips too. I would make the dress short sleeved and have waist tabs on it too. I would also make the shoulder tabs wider so they are stronger.
- Can you copy the boy or girl dressing doll? Can you colour or paint it?
- Can you cut the doll out carefully?
- The tabs are so that you can 'hang' the clothes on the doll.
- Lay your doll on white paper to draw each item of clothing. You need to trace round the doll to get the right size, but not round the parts that the clothes wouldn't cover.
- You could make sports clothes, night clothes, school uniform, or smart clothes. Have fun!

List of example words:

day, play, say, grey, may, bay, ray, stay, hay, way, they, tray, pay.

Model verse (NOT about something silly):

Here we are, it's Monday,
But in the house, I must stay.
Although the skies are very grey,
I'd rather go outside and play.
Sadly, I can't because you say,
It's just another home learning day!