



Outdoor SUMMER

Outdoor Summer Challenge; how many can you do? Tick the box next to each challenge once you've completed it. Remember to wear suitable clothes, and protect your skin from the sun!

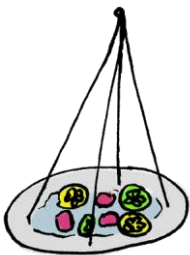
Name of Explorer:.....



Read a Book

Grab some books, go outside and find a nice sheltered spot where you can read together. Discuss what's happening and the parts of the stories that you like.

Jesus told lots of stories and used his parables as way of sharing and helping people to understand important messages. What is your favourite parable and why?



Butterfly or Bee Feeder

Make a butterfly or bee feeder. These are helpful during the summer months as butterflies and bees become tired, in need of rest so they can continue their important work. Find inspiration here* or create your own version.

Psalm 46:10 says, "Be still and know that I am God." Like the butterflies and bees, we too need time to rest, to be still, and restore energy to continue our work.



Bug Hotel

Using bricks, sticks, stones and other natural materials, create a bug hotel in your garden or suitable outdoor area. It's important to provide habitats for bugs and insects because they are a fundamental part of our natural environment.

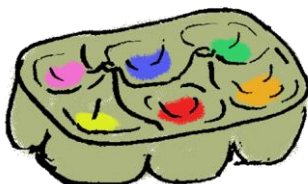
Once you've finished making the bug hotel, take a moment to pray for blessings over your own home. What things has God blessed you with?



Make and Fly a Kite

Make a kite together; there are loads of different instructions on the internet that you can follow. Visit the link below** to find a method that we recommend. Find a suitable open space and fly the kite that you have created.

The string keeps us connect to the kite. Without it we wouldn't be able to fly it. It's important that we keep connected to God, through prayer, reading the Bible and talking to people about Him.



Colour Match

Mark the inside of an empty egg box with different colours. Go for a walk or explore an outdoor space and hunt for items which match the colours inside the egg box. Smaller items can be collected in the corresponding section of your egg box to examine closely later.

We live in a colourful and varied world. Thank God for all that He has made and celebrate both similarities and differences.

* <http://www.readingconfetti.com/2013/07/easy-butterfly-feeder.html?m=1>

** <http://www.aworldofintriguingideas.com/?p=6317> N.B. Both these links take you to external websites not related or connected to BDBE.

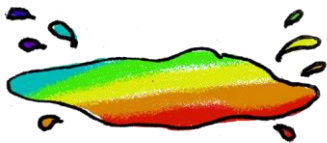


Outdoor

SUMMER

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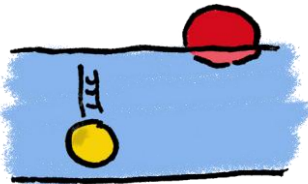
Chalk Puddles



Occasionally it rains in the summer but don't let the rain stop you going outside! Take some chalk and draw on the ground, or in a shallow puddle. What happens to the chalk when it's wet? Jump around on your colourful creations.

Rainbows are a symbol of God's promises to us. What promises has God made to you? What promises could you make to God? Share and discuss your ideas with each other.

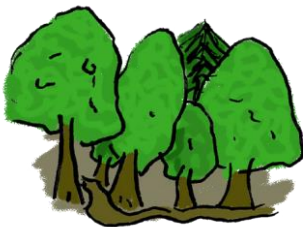
Sink or Float



Enjoy some outdoor water play in a paddling pool, a bucket, or on a rainy day for a walk to find a puddle. Gather various items that you don't mind getting wet and place them in the water. Do they sink or do they float?

Sometimes we can feel like we're sinking because we're sad, overwhelmed, or confused; we feel like we need help. Can we learn to trust God to help us during the times when we feel like we're sinking?

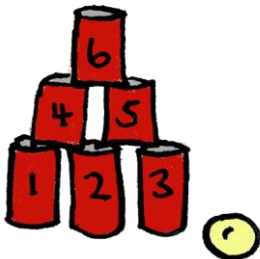
Walk Through the Trees



Take a walk through the trees. This could be at a local woodland or through trees in a park. What can you see? How does it smell? What does the bark feel like?

When a tree is rooted strongly in the ground it can grow and flourish, and can withstand many storms. The same is true for us; when we are rooted in Christ, through prayer and understanding of the Bible, we too are strong and can flourish.

Tin Can Alley



Stack up some clean empty food cans, (or something similar) in a pyramid shape. Throw a ball or beanbag at the cans and have fun knocking them down. Who can score the most points? Who can do the most creative throw?

Everytime you knock the tins down, you have to build them back up again. No matter what happens in our lives, God is there build us back up when we fall down. How can God help to build you up today?

Build a Sandcastle



Visit a beach (or a sand pit in your local park or back garden) and build a sandcastle. How many castles can you build? What can you do to make the castles stronger?

Castles are built to provide safety and protection. God offers us protection from things that try to hurt us. What things would you like God's protection from today?

* <https://www.jamieoliver.com/videos/jamie-oliver-s-fantastic-cheat-s-pizza-by-eat-it/>

** <https://www.funathomewithkids.com/2013/03/foam-window-art-mix-and-match-spring.html> N.B. Both these links take you to external websites not related or connected to BDBE.