Outdoor Learning Ideas

All Year Groups:

- **Create some art using natural resources**






Look up Tim Pugh, Andy Goldsworthy and James Brunt for more inspiration..

- **Create a treasure hunt in your garden or on your walk**

Hide a number of items for others to find

Or

Try to find things that start with each letter of the alphabet

Or

Try to find as many different colours as you can, or shades and tones of the same colour (e.g. how many greens are there in your garden)

Or

Have a shape hunt (could be 2D or 3D)

Or

Have a number hunt – how many even/ odd numbers can you see, how many multiples of 3, or prime numbers..

- **Make a marble or ball run in your garden, using man-made and natural resources**

- **Dig a small hole and investigate what is in there… What is the soil made up of? How many mini-beasts? Anything unusual?**

- **Investigate to see if you can influence how quickly grass grows. Can you make a small patch stop growing? Can you make another area grow more quickly? What can you do to change how quickly grass grows?**

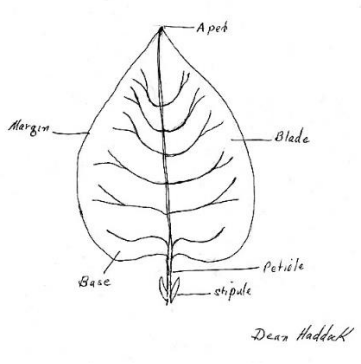
Year 3 Ideas – Linked to Topics in School

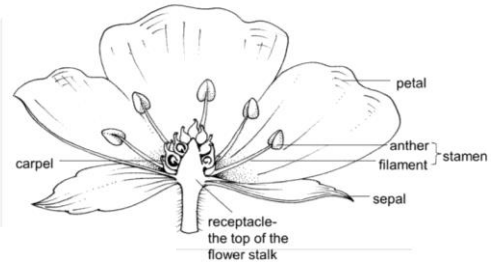
- **Can you make a skeleton of your hand out of sticks (or your whole body?!)**
  Feel and count how many bones there are in your hand, and try to place sticks where these bones are. You could try the same for your feet, or your whole body.

- **Look really closely at a section of grass.**
  How many different leaves can you see growing there? Are there any flowers, or seed heads too? Can you identify any of the plants (have a look for an identification chart online).

- **Identifying tress**
  The Woodland Trust have a brilliant tree identification app. When you go on a walk, use it to find out what trees you are walking past.

- **Close Up Drawings**
  Find a flower or leaf and look at it really closely. Can you draw a really careful, scientific drawing of it, showing all the details you can see? If you can, look at a diagram on the internet and label the parts.





Year 4 Ideas – Linked to Topics in School

- **Compass Directions**
  Can you create a treasure hunt in your garden using the compass points – North, South, East and West. Hide things in each location and give a family member instructions to get there.

- **Pyramids**
  Use anything you can find in your garden to make a pyramid, like the ones in Egypt. Make sure you upload your photos onto dojo!



- **Shadufs**
  Egyptians made shadufs to get water from the Nile to water their plants. Can you make something like a shaduf that would get water from one place to another (not a watering can!)?



- **Papyrus**
  The Egyptians made their own paper from leaves of the papyrus plant. There are plenty of online instructions for how to make your own papyrus, including the following
  https://www.crayola.com/crafts/egyptian-papyrus-paper-craft/
  but most use paper bags. Try one of these, but then can you adapt the instructions to make paper out of leaves, like the Egyptians did.

Year 5 Ideas – Linked to Topics in School

- **Create a maze**
  Theseus had to get in and out of a maze. Can you create a maze, ether on paper, or in your garden, for a family member to try to solve. These instructions might help you make a really tricky one!

  https://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Draw-a-Maze/

  If you make one in the garden, ask permission to use whatever resources you can find, but remember to put them away again when you've finished!

- **Cleaning Water**
  Scenario: You are camping in the jungle and your last bottle of water spills. All you have now is dirty river water. What are you going to do to survive?
  Ask someone to make up a jug of really dirty water, using soil and other bits from the garden. Your job is to make it clean.
  How are you going to do this?
  What could you use?
  Hint: cut the top off a bottle and turn it upside down to make a funnel. What could you use to filter the water? How many times can you filter it?
  How clean can you make the water? Upload a photo onto dojo…

- **Survival**
  What is there in your garden that would mean you could survive out there for a week (or a month!), without coming back into your house? Think about shelter, food, water, warmth. What are you missing? Could you design your garden so that you have all the things you need?
  Perhaps on a nice day, you could see how long you could spend in the garden. What are the things you absolutely have to come back inside for?

- **Shelter**
  On your bingo card, you had the option of building a shelter. Could you build one in your garden for one of your toys. It should keep it warm and dry, even if you leave it out overnight. You can test it by gently pouring water on it, and then improve it if any leaks through.
  What materials could you use? How are you going to make it strong enough to not fall down? How can you make it waterproof and windproof?

Year 6 Ideas – Linked to Topics in School

- **Mayan Food**

  https://www.historymuseum.ca/cmc/exhibitions/civil/maya/mmp04eng.html

  Have a look at this webpage. Maya used to grow lots of foods we still eat today. Can you have a go at growing squashes, coriander, sweet corn, tomatoes? What are the best conditions for them to grow in? What would the conditions have been like tin the time of the Maya? Can you try different locations? How can you make sure you are conducting a fair test (change one thing, keep everything else the same)?

  Post some photos of your plants as they grow.

- **Mayan Pyramids**



  The Mayans, like the Egyptians, built pyramids. Can you use whatever you can find in your garden to create a pyramid? You could just make a pyramid shape, or you could try to include the steps, like in the photo above.

- **Mayan Civilisations**

  http://www.localhistories.org/maya.html

  Have a look at this webpage, and any others you can find. Make notes about what a Mayan Village might look like. Now, use resources in your garden to make a birds-eye view of the village. Use different resources to represent houses, places of worship, roads, paths or farmland. Think carefully about where you are going to place things and why. Be able to explain your choices. Take a photo, upload it, add labels and write an explanation to go with it.