



# Sights of summer

With long days and many hours of sunshine, summer is a great time to get outside and explore. These activities will help you to look a little closer at the natural world during the summertime.

These activities are aimed at 4 to 11-year-olds but can be adapted for any age.

## You will need:

- Paper/worksheet
- Pencil
- Colouring pencils
- Art materials
- Picnic

## Setting the scene

### Exploring textures in summer

#### Touch

Find a tree that you think looks interesting. Run your hands along the trunk.

- What do you feel?
- Do you think you notice more with your eyes closed?
- Find another tree, do other species of tree feel different?

### Notice the sounds of summer

#### Listen

Find a safe place to stay completely still and quiet with your eyes closed.

- What can you hear around you?
- Are the sounds close or far away?
- Are they sounds of people, animals or something else?
- How would the sounds be different in different seasons?



## Get creative



### Stick art

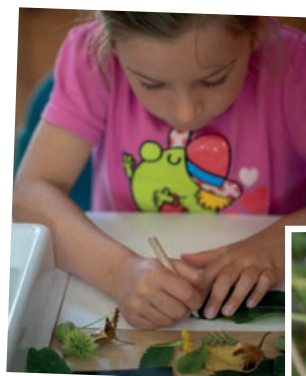
While out in the forest, gather some good sticks for making things – perhaps a picture frame, a magic wand, a walking stick.

- **Look carefully at your sticks to decide what each should become.**
- **How does its shape and size affect what you can make?**



### Summer colours

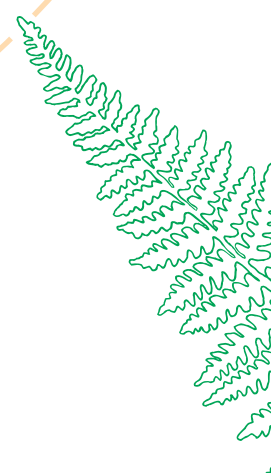
Think about all of the colours that you see in nature during the summertime and create a picture or collage to show off all of the colours.



### Shadow puppets

With the sun high in the sky for many hours each day, you often get lots of shadows.

- **Have a go at creating shadow puppets of different forest animals with your hands.**
- **Invent a short story and create your very own puppet show.**





# Summer wildlife



## Butterfly detectives

Find an open, sunny place, with long meadow grass and flowers, and look out for butterflies.

- How many different types of butterfly can you spot?
- Do they all like the same flowers?



## Forest habitats

Sometimes Forestry England staff leave fallen trees and branches on the ground because they provide fantastic homes for minibeasts.

- Find some deadwood and carefully lift it to see what is living under it and on it.

Make sure you replace the wood after you finish.

# Get active

## Woodland wander

Go adventuring off the main tracks and find a special place deep in the forest to have a secret summer picnic.

## Pedal power

To explore even further, find a forest cycle trail and ride a bike around the forest.



## Hide-and-seek

There are lots of animals hiding in the woods in dens, down burrows and in hidey-holes in the tree trunks.

- Pretend to be a woodland animal and play a game of hide-and-seek among the trees and other forest plants.
- Who can find the best hidey-hole?

## Earn your stamp

To earn your stamp, fill in the worksheet or take photos and tell us about the activities, including which was your favourite. Email a copy of your work, along with your name, age and the place you visited, to us at [learning.english@forestryengland.uk](mailto:learning.english@forestryengland.uk).



# Worksheet

## Sounds of summer

What did you hear? What sounds were nearby and what sounded far away?  
Did you know what made each of the noises?

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## Summer colours

Draw a picture or create a collage to show all of the colours of summer.





# Worksheet



## Woodland wildlife

What butterflies or minibeasts did you find? Tick the box for any you have seen and write in your own.



☐ Red admiral



☐ Woodlouse



☐ Brimstone



☐ Slug



☐ Holly blue



☐ Beetle



☐ Peacock



☐ Earthworm



☐ Centipede



☐ Millipede

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Which was your favourite activity and why?

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