

My Ideas



John Clare Adventure Book - Teacher Resource



START





Catch A Falling Leaf - stand underneath a tree in autumn and see if you can catch a falling leaf

Feather Up - find a feather and see how long you can keep it in the air only by blowing it

Pick It Up - while out and about you may find that you come across litter. Why not take out a bag and some gloves so you can collect it and dispose of it properly

Blind Trail - great for building trust, using a blindfold work in pairs to help each other navigate through the wild

Barefoot Walk - if safe and appropriate to do so ground yourself to nature by going on a barefoot walk

Nature Museums - these are a great way to showcase things that have been found and that the children might like to keep. Use an old egg box to showcase them and each time they find something new replace the old with the new

Geocaching - take part in this national treasure hunt, you will need a mobile device to be able to track and locate your treasure but it is great fun

Pooh Sticks - crossing a stream or river? Everyone drops a stick on one side of the crossing and the watch out for it on the other - the first one through wins

Conkers - one from most peoples childhoods, collect conkers and have a good old fashioned game

Snail Racing - on a round target add some leaves to the middle and your snails to the edge, watch them go. The first to the leaves wins

Fun & Games



Why not just have some fun as part of your adventure. Find the ideal spot or space to try out some of these fun activities -

Word Association - start with a key word and ask each child in turn to think of an associated word related to the topic

Follow the Line - using some old wool or string, thread it between posts, trees etc. Add letters, pictures or words for the children to follow along the line and create a word, sentence or story

Trails - use the pictures or words to create a trail for the children to follow and find in an outdoor space

Tree-Tales - looking through a tree the children need to think of a word - how it makes them feel, what they see, a texture or how it makes them feel. Each child says their word in turn and you a tree-tale!

Birds Eye View - have you ever seen something from another view? Imagine you are an ant on the ground, how big would a blade of grass be? Get down on your tummy, on your hands and knees or look down from above and see if things look different. Does something small look big or something big look small!

Cloud Spotting - can you see shapes, animals, faces in the clouds above?

Tree Bathing - laying on the ground in amongst the trees, close your eyes and allow yourself to drift off. Use your senses to concentrate on what you hear and feel and feel at one with nature.

Adventures All Year

We want you to be able to make the most of the natural environment surrounding your school.

This teachers resource aims to give you a range of activities and ideas for both curriculum and seasonal learning which you can use time and time again to engage your students.

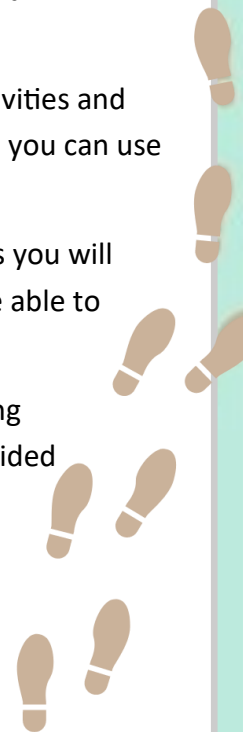
This is just the start, as you spend more time outdoors you will grow your own skills, knowledge and confidence to be able to add your own resources to these.

We hope that both you and your students enjoy getting out and about by using the John Clare Mini Trails provided and the many more I am sure you will create yourself.

Don't forget all the walks you do can be counted towards the John Clare Award -

check out **The John Clare Countryside** website -

www.johnclarecountryside.co.uk for further details.



I Spy.....

I Spy is an easy and simple way to be able to engage with the natural world around you.

The list below are some of the ideas you might choose to do with your students -

- ⇒ Birds
- ⇒ Ducks
- ⇒ Mini Beasts
- ⇒ Bees
- ⇒ Butterflies
- ⇒ Wildflowers
- ⇒ Trees
- ⇒ Rocks
- ⇒ Patterns
- ⇒ Colours
- ⇒ Location Names
- ⇒ Historical Landmarks
- ⇒ Wildlife Tracks
- ⇒ Senses
- ⇒ Shapes
- ⇒ John Clare Poems

You could do these more than one in the different seasons, you'll be surprised how much things can change!

To help you with any of the above we have teamed up with PECT's Natures School - www.pect.org.uk/projects/natures-school

You will be able to access and download all the above I Spy resources completely free of charge.

Art & Design -

**Countryside Crafts
Design
Drawing**

**Exploring Ideas
Cultural
Creativity**

Geography -

**Land Management
Context
Weather**

**Map & Compass
Features
Fieldwork**

History -

**Changing Landscapes
Local People
Industry**

**Landmarks
Dating/Aging
Trends & Changes**

Music -

**Natural Music
Origins of Music
Recognition of Sounds**

**Making Instruments
Performance**

To help you with activities that support all of the above we have teamed up with PECT's Natures School - www.pect.org.uk/projects/natures-school

You will be able to access and download over 150 free, hands on and creative activities you can do with your students.

Curriculum Links

How?

Getting out and about in nature is a great way to enhance the curriculum and make it memorable. There isn't an area or subject which cannot be taught outside, so here are some ideas to get you started -

Maths -

Counting
Measuring
Symmetry

Comparing
Data Analyst
Frequency

English -

Creative Writing
Speaking & Listening
Questioning

Observations
Poetry
Record & Present Info

Science -

Explore
Describe
Growth

Identify
Recording & Classifying
Relate

DT -

Materials
Design
Food Sources

Structure
Evaluation
Problem Solving

PSHE -

Wellbeing
Heritage
Managing Risk

Health
Faith
Relationships

There are a number of different ways to use these I Spy resources - you may know a few already but just in case here is our list to give you a start -

- ⇒ Tick a list
- ⇒ Collect items if possible and use them for a **creative** activities
- ⇒ Draw what you have seen
- ⇒ Use your senses to **engage** and **connect** with what you have found
- ⇒ Isolate one sense and see if you spot something different
- ⇒ Transfer, rubbings and prints of your finds
- ⇒ **Capture** a photo
- ⇒ Plot it on a map - what did you see where?
- ⇒ Play a game of I Spy Bingo
- ⇒ I Spy with my little eye.....
- ⇒ Word association games
- ⇒ Take a John Clare poem on a walk and tick how many things he **describes** you spot

Word Bank

Word banks are a great way to get your students talking about and sharing their experiences.

Here is one you might like to use.

Looks	Rough	Smooth	Colourful	Soft	Hard	Shiny
Smells	Fresh	Spicy	Delicate	Sweet	Damp	Earthy
Sounds	Loud	Relaxing	Crunchy	Buzzing	Whistling	Rustling
Feels	Prickly	Wet	Spiky	Dusty	Crumbly	Slimy