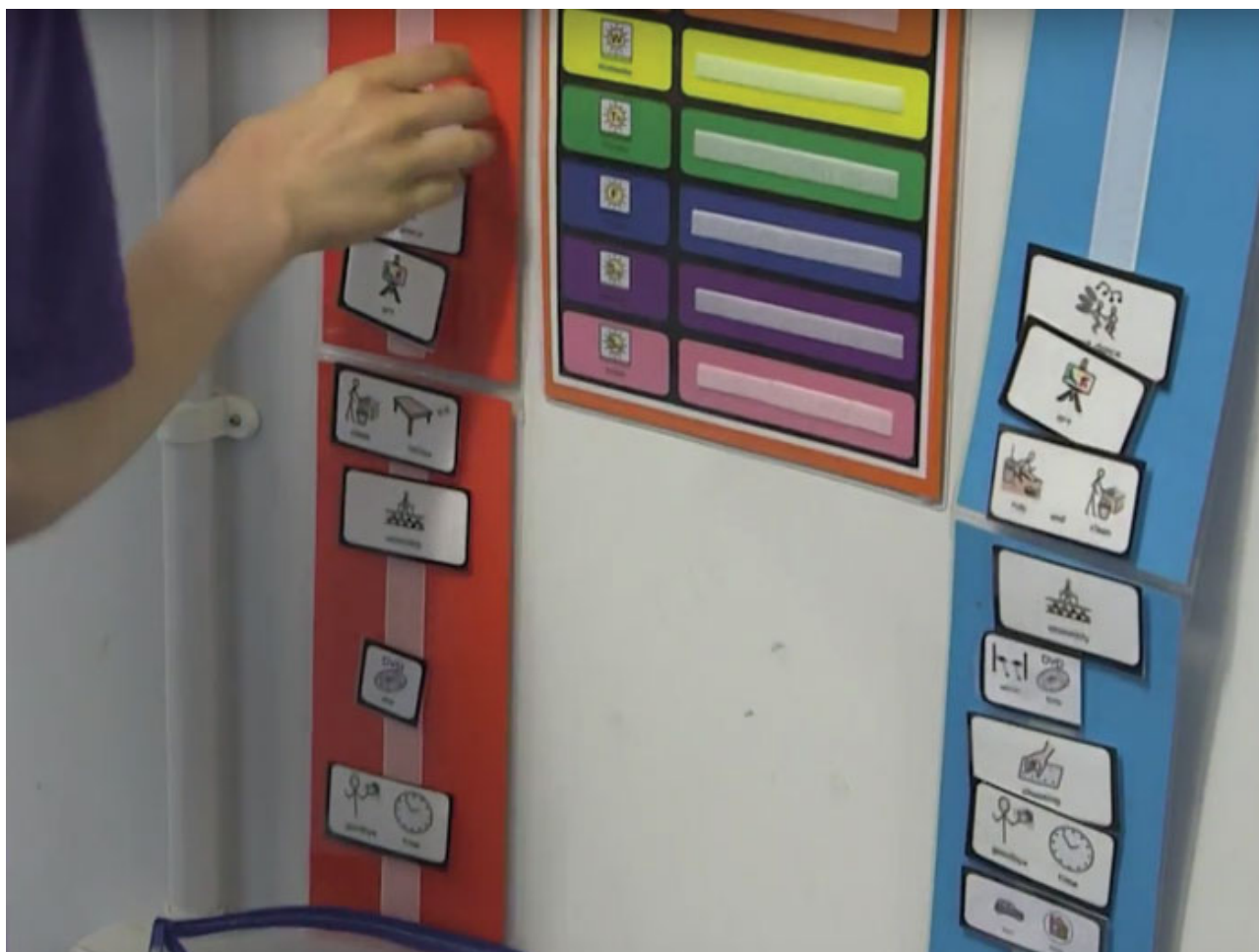


Remote Learning to support pupils with special educational needs

- Last week, schools across Northern Ireland have set up an online support community on Twitter last week which can be accessed [@learn_ni](https://twitter.com/learn_ni). School principals and teachers are adding daily a range of resources, links and ideas to support each other with remote learning.
- It is imperative for schools to ensure that all children have their C2K username and password in order to access C2K software from home. It would be helpful to remind children of the SMART rules when using the internet.
- Children thrive when there is a plan for the day or a daily schedule. It helps them to feel safe and secure. It is also very important that there is a **balance** between online learning, written and practical activities, outdoor learning and free time.
- Symbols can help explain what's happening now and next.



- In schools visual timetables help children to understand routines throughout the school day, reducing anxiety and improving learning and behaviour.
- Here are some symbols you could use to create a timetable for home.



The Middletown Centre for Autism has some very helpful resources and on-line learning for parents.

<https://www.middletownautism.com/>

Useful websites for parents kindly suggested by Anne Moore, principal of Glenveagh Special School

<http://therapystreetforkids.com/>

Therapy Street for Kids | Occupational Therapy

A resource for parents who are looking for occupational therapy activities that can be done at home and with household materials. Skill areas include fine motor, visual motor, crossing midline, self help skills, sensory processing and handwriting.

therapystreetforkids.com

Sensory activities

www.childhood101.com/sensory-play-ideas

www.handsonaswegrow.com/sensory-activities-for-kids

www.sensorydispensary.blogspot.com/2017/09/story-massage.html

<http://www.fiveacrewood.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/iPad-apps21.pdf> sensory apps

Literacy and numeracy

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvsTtaCSauYyCf-Y77qIRgA> attention autism videos

www.ccea.org.uk/learning-resources/science-through-stories-sen literacy

[https://ccea.org.uk/downloads/docs/ccea-](https://ccea.org.uk/downloads/docs/ccea-asset/Resource/Responding%20Responsibly%3A%20Money%20Matters.pdf)

[asset/Resource/Responding%20Responsibly%3A%20Money%20Matters.pdf](https://ccea.org.uk/downloads/docs/ccea-asset/Resource/Responding%20Responsibly%3A%20Money%20Matters.pdf) money

Home Economics

<http://www.cookeryonline.com/Resource/Kitchen%20Health%20&%20Safety.htm>

<http://www.kidsandcooking.co.uk/teachingkidsfoodhygiene.html>

<https://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/recipes/food-safety-and-hygiene.aspx>

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/chloe12345/life-skills-visual-recipes>

Early development on-screen learning suggestions:

- Getting Ready to Learn Book Bags.
- Getting Ready to Learn Happy Healthy Kids physical equipment.
- Outdoor physical activities.
- Look at the wildlife, hedgerows and keep track of the changes in nature and photos and drawings.
- Gardening activities- planting and digging.
- Make models from junk materials, Duplo, Lego (*see some suggestions for Lego below- note American spelling*).
- Cut and stick activities, paint and draw.
- Fill a sink with water and engage in water play.
- Play board games e.g. snap, Dobble.



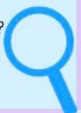






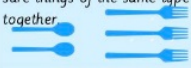
- Bedtime box *Suggested contents:* Teddy in box decorated as a bed; Blanket; Small toy for teddy; CD of bedtime songs and rhymes; Storybook – *Five Minutes Peace, Goodnight Moon, The Gruffalo, Goodnight, Little Bear*.
- Happy sack/books *Suggested contents:* A selection of photographs of happy people/faces (or a variety of expressions for comparison/discussion); CD of happy songs and rhymes; Storybook – *I Feel Happy* ; Use phone to record happy sounds, laughing etc.
- New baby box *Suggested contents:* A baby doll; Box decorated as cot/cradle with blanket; Bottle, clothing and nappies; Storybook – *You're the Biggest* (brilliant for new big brothers and sisters!)
- Playdough bag/box *Suggested contents:* Recipe card so children can easily make it with some help (see recipe); shape cutters egg cups, plastic glasses and natural materials around the home and garden; range of tools for shaping and creating marks, using cooking utensils; special ingredients e.g. rice, glitter, spices and herbs.
- Bake and cook with adults.
- Ideas to promote fine motor skills include scissor activities with dough, newspaper, old magazines and card. As the skills progress change the thickness of the paper to make it more difficult and challenging by using former birthday cards and Christmas cards. Use household items like tongs and tweezers to lift sticks, cotton balls, small stones, etc.
- Don't forget the gross motor skills. Apart from the normal running and outdoor play, indoor activities could include: encourage children to bear walk, roll along the floor with arms tucked in and stretched out to strengthen core muscles, balancing/following on the lines on the tiles and using them to hopscotch and not forgetting to encourage using alternate feet on the stairs while counting.
- Further ideas on app called *50 Things To Do Before You are Five* which is available on Google Play on the App Store.
- Create a routine for the day using pictures/drawings/words.
- Learn to ride a bike, bat/ball activities, skip, run, dig, hop.
- Take a walk and look at the wildlife, hedgerows and keep track of the changes in nature and record findings in photos and drawings.
- Gardening activities- planting and digging.
- Keep a dairy/journal.
- Make models from junk materials, Duplo, Lego (*see some suggestions for Lego below- note American spelling and some grammatical errors!*).
- Play board games e.g. dominoes.
- Read a book.

Recipe for playdough

2 cups of plain flour
 2 tablespoons of vegetable oil
 ½ cup of salt
 2 tablespoons of cream of tartar
 1 cup of water and food colouring, if desired.

- Practise your musical instrument e.g. recorder, piano, violin flute etc.
- Dance or enjoy some yoga stretches.
- Paint, draw or make a model from junk materials.
- Play board games such as Monopoly or Trivial Pursuit.
- Play card games such as Uno or Phase 10.
- Bake or cook.
- Go out into your garden and enjoy the fresh air- run, jump, skip, kick a ball, play tennis up against a wall.

Further home learning ideas kindly supplied below by Pamela Algie, principal of Bangor Nursery School.

 Home Learning Ideas One 			
<p>Go on a number hunt around your house or outside.</p> <p>What numbers can you see? What are the numbers for? What do they tell us?</p> 	<p>Sing some nursery rhymes or songs with a grown up.</p> <p>What is your favourite? Do you know the actions? Can you clap along in a steady beat?</p>	<p>Can you help get ready for dinner? How many plates, cups, knives and forks or spoons will you need for each person?</p> 	<p>Share a story with an adult. What was your favourite part of the story? Who is your favourite person in the story?</p>
<p>Look in the cupboard for three different sized tins or packets. Feel them. Are they heavy or light? Can you work out which is the heaviest? Which is the lightest? Put them in order.</p>	<p>Read a favourite story with a family member.</p> <p>If it is safe to do so - visit your local library.</p> 	<p>Can you go on a colour treasure hunt? Around the house can you find things that are different colours and then sort them into sets of green things, blue things, red things etc.</p>	<p>Practice using scissors to cut some pictures out of a newspaper or catalogue. Maybe you can make a picture with them.</p> 
<p>Help with the washing! Can you help match all the pairs of socks from the washing? Look for patterns that are the same or things that are the same colour.</p> 	<p>Play Kim's game with a grown up. Put five or six small items on the floor. Try and remember them! Close your eyes. The grown up will take away one item and cover the ones that are left with a tea towel. Open your eyes and look, what's missing?</p>	<p>Ask a grown up to show you some coins. Talk about the names of the coins. Look for the small number on each coin that tells you how much it is worth. What colours and sizes are they?</p> 	<p>What am I? The grown up will give you some clues about an animal, it has spots, it has a long neck. Can you work out what animal it is from the clues?</p>
<p>Spot the difference. Look at the grown up or around the room. Try and remember what everything looks like. Close your eyes. The grown up will change one thing (glasses on/off, move ornament etc) Can you find what has changed?</p>	<p>What shapes can you see around your house? Can you find circles, squares, rectangles and triangles?</p> 	<p>Can you tell a story you know to a grown up? Can you put get the bits of the story in the right order and tell it so it makes sense?</p>	<p>Can you help sort the knives, forks and spoons into the drawer? Make sure things of the same type go together</p> 



Home Learning 2



Go on a number hunt around your house or outside for numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5- can you put the numbers in order? Talk with an adult about the number before, after and between.	Can you draw a picture for someone who might be lonely on their own? Maybe a neighbour or family member.	Can you make a name the fruit and vegetables in your house? Have a chat about how they feel and smell (and taste!) Have a chat with a grown up about where these grow.	Look at a calendar with a grown up - talk about the days of the week and what happens on each of the days. Maybe you go to Sunday School or Football every Tuesday. What special things do you do during the week?
Go for a walk and collect some sticks. Can you order them by length? Which is the longest? Which is the shortest? Can you find something at home the same length as one of the sticks?	Read a favourite story with a family member. If it is safe to do so - visit your local library.	Help a grown up wrap some presents (or cereal boxes) of different sizes. How much paper do you need to cover a small box? How much paper do you need to cover a big box? What do you notice about the difference?	Practice using scissors to cut some pictures out of magazines
Tell your grown up about your favourite thing about school. Why do you like it? Make eye contact as you talk and ask your grown up about their favourite thing about their day.	Look at a collection of coins How could you describe each coin? Is it little or big? Is it round or does it have lots of sides? What colour is it? Can you see any numbers on the coins? Ask a grown up their names.	Practice tearing long strips of papers from an old newspaper or magazine.	Can you practice counting objects using numbers just like we do at dinner time! Maybe you can sing some number songs like 1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive.
Make a card for someone special. Inside it you can write a message. Tell a grown up what it says. Can you post it in the post box?	With an empty container can you listen to a grown ups instructions and fill it? Try with long narrow containers, short wide containers and containers of interesting shapes/sizes	Look at some old photos with your child. What differences do they notice? How have they changed? How have other family members changed? Can you put a baby photo, toddler photo and recent photo in order?	Make Playdough with a grown up 2 cups playdough 2 tbsp oil 1/2 cup salt 2 sachets cream of tartar 1 - 1.5 cups of boiling water (mix together and stir to combine)



Home Learning 3



Using lego or blocks can you make towers of different sizes? Which is the tallest? Which is the smallest?	Watch the NSPCC video Pantasaurus Discuss this with your child.	Can you collect shoes/clothing of different sizes. Compare the sizes and talk about them using words like bigger/ longer.	Look at some photos of baby animals with your child. Talk about the names of the baby animals e.g. lamb for a baby sheep.
Go on a shape hunt around the house. Can you find circles, triangles, squares and rectangles. Talk about each shape, use its name and talk about the number of corners, sides and the length of sides.	Read a favourite story with a family member. If it is safe to do so - visit your local library.	Talk about different times of the day - Morning, Afternoon and Night. Talk about what you do at different times of the day. Help you child develop an understanding that we do different things in different parts of the day.	Go for a walk outside with your child. Look for signs of Spring and discuss them - photos for this may be sent through Seesaw.
In the sink or bath experiment to see what objects around the house can sink or float	Make Rainbow toast - put a little food colouring in water. paint this lightly on to a slice of bread and toast it.	Vegetable printing - cut a vegetable in half and dip in some paint. Print on to some paper or a roll of wallpaper.	Help your child to take some photos of their favourite things using a phone or tablet device. Print these and make a collage or use an app like PicKids.
Set a challenge for your child and set a stop watch on your phone. How quickly can they tidy their toys/how quickly can they match a collection of socks?	Have a dance party - each family member picks one song to dance to.	Make ice lollies or jelly. Talk about the before and after. How has it changed?	Listen to some classical music - what instruments can you hear? how would you move to the music? fast? slow? How does it make you feel?

Screen learning suggestions, kindly supplied by James Curran, principal of Harberton Special School:

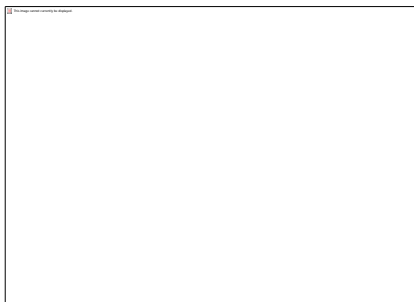
Rainbow
Match it up 3
Baby images
Phones for kids
Toy story
Elmo's 123
Paint Sparkle
Touch Emotions
Memory 4-7
Hungry Caterpillar Counting
Shape puzzle
Elmo's 123
Critter's Maths
ABC Wildlife Letters
Maths 3-4
Montessori Intro to Letters
HairyLetters
Elmo's ABC
Maths 4-5
Park Maths
ChooseIT Literacy
ChooseIT Numeracy
ChooseIT Science
Spellosaur
Amazing Time
Addition & Subtraction for Kids

iMovie
PuppetPals
Dexteria Junior
Maths 6-7
Phonics Master
Spelling Magic
Amazing Coin
Addition Wiz
Subtraction Wiz
Math Bingo
Rainbow Sentences
Explain Everything
Dyslexia Quest
Math Bingo
Treasure Hunt
Dyslexia Quest
Memory Block
Speak it
Letter tracking
Brain School
Dyslexia Quest
Memory Block
Speak it
Letter tracking
Brain School

Children's websites



Kids' Zone



e-Portfolio software for schools



Online Spelling practice



Online Maths practice



- # Non-sensory activities you can do at home

What can you do when there's no school and you're stuck at home? Here are 25 fun ideas to choose from.

<p>1 How many different sounds can you hear in the sentence below? Write down the letters in this sentence, in order! Can you hear a person next to a bird?</p> <p><i>Listening from home is fun!</i></p>	<p>2 Theming a community item. Think of a community item, like a park or library, and write down three things you see when you visit. Write an e-card to thank them.</p> <p><i>Thanks!</i></p>	<p>3 Get budgiebuddy! You could build a large budgie, or a team of playing cards or something. Draw a budgie.</p>	<p>4 Can you create your own secret code? You could use letters, numbers, pictures or something. Write a card you can give your friend to show they are being so cracky!</p>	<p>5 Start a nature story. Look at a picture of a tree and write something about it. Write about the weather, what the birds are doing, what the squirrels are doing.</p>
<p>6 Hold a photo day. Take a photo of a community place in your area. Write a letter to the person who lives there. Write what you think the person will say.</p>	<p>7 Build a reading day. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>8 Use an old sock to create a character. Draw a face on a sock. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>9 Make a list of all the electrical items in your house. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>10 Design and make a card. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>
<p>11 Do something kind for someone. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>12 Can you create a story? Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>13 List making! Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>14 Design and make an electrical item. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>15 Can you invent something new? Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>
<p>16 Keep moving! Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>17 Write a play. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>18 Read out loud. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>19 Write a song or rap about your favourite subject. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>20 Get storytelling! Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>
<p>21 Make something new! Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>22 Draw a picture of your favourite book. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>23 Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book. Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>24 Can you make a card about your favourite book? Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>	<p>25 Get storytelling! Write a letter to a friend about your favourite book.</p>

Pobble.com – More writing. More progress.

100+ INDOOR ACTIVITIES

CRAFTS	ACTIVITIES	GAMES
MAKE PAPER AIRPLANES	MAKE PAPER FLOUTAGE	PLAY WOULD YOU RATHER
SALT PAINTING	MAKE BUME	PLAY I SPY
MAKE SUNCHGATORS	MAKE PLAY MUD	PLAY SNAKE SAYS
MAKE SALT DOUGH	MAKE RAINBOW RICE	PLAY BOARD GAMES
MAKE SPONGE STAMPS	MAKE FAKE SNOW	PLAY HIDE AND SEEK
MAKE A CEREAL BOX AQUARIUM	MAKE A SENSORY BIN	INDOOR SCAVENGER HUNT
MAKE SCRATCH ART	MAKE A SENSORY BAG	PLAY BINGO
MAKE YOUR OWN BOOKMARKS	BUILD A FORT	PLAY CARD GAMES
PAINT PET ROCKS	HAVE A PILLOW FIGHT	DO A PUZZLE
MAKE RECYCLED CRAYONS	WRITE A STORY	PLAY CHARADES
MAKE PAPER BOATS	MAKE ICE CREAM IN A BAG	BUILD YOUR OWN GAME
FINGER PRINT	MAKE GUMMY FINGER	PLAY FREEZE DANCE
MAKE FINGERSPUN BRACELETS	MAKE FRUIT ROLL-UPS	PLAY HOT POTATO
MAKE A BIRD FEEDER	HAVE A MOVIE DAY	PLAY MARBLES
MAKE PAPER BAG PUPPETS	PUT ON A FASHION SHOW	KEEP THE BALLOON UP
MAKE HANDPRINT ART	BAKE CUPCAKES OR MUFFINS	PLAY DOMINOES
MAKE A SCRAPBOOK	DO YOGA	PLAY HANGMAN
DECORATE T-SHIRTS	BUILD AN OBSTACLE COURSE	PLAY TIC-TAC-TOE
MAKE A THANKFUL JAR	MAKE DINNER TOGETHER	
PAINT LEAVES	PLAY WITH MAGNETIC TILES	EDUCATIONAL
MAKE A TIME CAPSULE	LEAVE SOMETHING WITH LEGO	READ BOOKS
MAKE BUTTON ART	USE DOT MARKERS	DO A SCIENCE PROJECT
PAINT WITH WATERCOLORS	BUILD A STACK OF CARDS	LEARN ORISMAN
COLOR IN A COLORING BOOK	PUT ON A PURPLE SHOW	LEARN ABOUT A NEW ANIMAL
MAKE PAPER CRAFTS	MAKE A TREASURE HUNT	LEARN A NEW CARD GAME
BUILD A CARDBOARD CASTLE	INDOOR BOWLING	LEARN TO SCOW
MAKE TISSUE BOX MONSTERS	LEARN TO DRAW	LEARN TO KNOT
MAKE A TOILET PAPER ROLL BUTTERFLY	PUT ON A PLAY	DO BRAIN TEASERS
STAMP WITH CELERY	MAKE INDOOR HORSCHOE	LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE
MAKE CHALK ICE	DO A FAMILY CHOE TOGETHER	LEARN ABOUT A COUNTRY
MAKE PURFY SIDEWALK PAINT	HAVE A TEA PARTY	
DRAW A SELF PORTRAIT	PLAY WITH WATER IN A BIN	
USE RUBBER STAMPS	SET UP A PLAY STORE	
DO SCRAPBE STAMPS	MAKE A SOCK TOSK GAME	
PAINT A RECYCLED JAR	MAKE POKER READ ART	
MAKE SUPERCHOO COSTUMES	WRITE IN A JOURNAL	

THEBESTIDEASFORKIDS.COM

100 Things indoors


www.ipretheshoppists.ie



1. Make non-verbal playground, then have a Daphnia Dance
2. Draw a family's portrait
3. Write a book
4. Draw finger luv the fruit bowl
5. Draw a picture of a cat
6. Visit www.roberttwinkl.com
7. Make a book from kitchen pots and pans
8. Footprint paint
9. Make a clock every 30 minutes
10. Have a karaoke
11. Make a song to family and friends to get them busy
12. Play a game every day for a pot or salad for 1st
13. Make an indoor picnic
14. Discuss your favourite story and share it together
15. Draw books alphabetically
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30 Days of LEGO Play

Follow the instructions for each day. The only rule is to have fun and use your imagination!

			Day 1 You were hired by an amusement park to create a new roller coaster.	Day 2 NASA needs you to build a new rocket.	Day 3 Your parents want to build a new home and they want you to build it.	Day 4 Hollywood hires you to build a movie set for a new Star Wars movie.
Day 5 You enter a contest to build the world's tallest tower. Will you win?	Day 6 You are stuck on Mars and need to build a new ship to get home.	Day 7 Ford hires you to create the toughest pick up truck in the world.	Day 8 You and 4 friends are stranded on an island. Build a boat to find a way home.	Day 9 Captain Hook needs a new pirate ship and wants you to build it.	Day 10 You and your friends decide to build a tree house.	Day 11 Prince Charming hires you to build a castle for him & Cinderella.
Day 12 Dr. Who hires you to build a new TARDIS.	Day 13 You are asked by the President to build a new monument to George Washington.	Day 14 Mr. Hilton hires you to build a new hotel.	Day 15 There is a circus in town. Build a place for the performance.	Day 16 Help your fellow pioneers build a wagon to make it across the country.	Day 17 Build the fastest car around and join the big car race.	Day 18 Do you wanna build a snowman? Get in the winter mood and build a snow scene.
Day 19 The city wants you to build a bridge to connect one side of the town to the other.	Day 20 Pizza party! It is up to you to make a pizza for all the guests.	Day 21 You are hired to build a brand new hospital.	Day 22 The fence is broke and the dog keeps escaping. Build one he can't get out of.	Day 23 You are now in medieval times. You are commissioned to build a jousting arena.	Day 24 The local bank keeps getting robbed. Build a safe no one can crack.	Day 25 Design and build your dream bedroom.
Day 26 You are elected ruler. Build a flag for your land.	Day 27 Aliens are invading and you need to build a war robot to defeat them.	Day 28 The aliens have taken over. They are impressed by your robot. They want you build one for them.	Day 29 You are hired to build a house entirely out of yellow Legos.	Day 30 There is blizzard. You will need to build a snowmobile		What was your favorite day?

Other online resources available for remote learning

- **Oxford Owl** (accessed at https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/?fbclid=IwAR0UL4FTi_mfFI_n3E1CP3emL-) A range of free eBooks for 3 – 11 years. Parents and teachers can register for free.
- **Guided reading activities** (attached) supplied by Karen Irwin and shared on Twitter [@learn_ni](#)
- **Topmarks Counting Games** accessed at <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>
- **Maths Puzzles and Problems** for Years 1 and 2 (attached)
- **ICT Games** are on-screen games for literacy and numeracy at <https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/index.html>
- **Google Classrooms (C2K MySchool username and password required)**

Use the new classroom tab to set tasks.

- **Microsoft 365 (C2K MySchool username and password required)**

OneNote- can be used to upload and store children's work and provide written/audio feedback.

Teams- is a collaborative platform that combines chat, video calls and file storage. Use Teams to communicate with your class via video call or chat and store resources. Some schools are using Teams to set work for a group e.g. write a story in a group of six to enable children to work in groups and collaborate with their friends while working from home.

FlipGrid- is a video tool where children/teachers can record short video responses to collaborative class grids. It can be used to pose questions for children to answer/reflect/discuss a topic.

Immersive Reader- is supported in Word Online, OneNote, Outlook, and PowerPoint. Children can use Immersive Reader to hear the document read aloud, change the appearance of a document to help the reader focus on the content (increase/decrease text size, the amount of spacing between letters and words or the background colour of the document), identify parts of speech and a translate option.

Office Lens- can be used to scan a printed text and place it in OneNote — the program will use text recognition to launch the immersive reader.

- **Newsdesk (C2K MySchool username and password required)** Newsdesk is a very useful tool for schools to develop children's fluency in reading, comprehension and writing skills. The Newsdesk Hour will be in operation from Monday 23 March where children can listen to interesting articles, watch video content and write about what they have read or learned. Children can also take a picture and upload it onto School Reporter section of the main Newsdesk site. The activities and topics are updated daily.

- **Collaborate Ultra (C2K MySchool username and password required)** video conferencing/virtual classroom. Collaborate Ultra can take up to 500 participants in any one session. Teachers can present slides, talk about learning, have children engage with the teacher etc. There is also the facility to have break out rooms. One teacher is using Collaborate Ultra to support a child who has additional needs.
- **SeeSaw** can be used by teachers to engage with children and parents and to set and share work. Schools need to have an account with SeeSaw already.
- **Apple Camera And Clips-** free video apps to make professional videos that use graphics, effects and more. These tools can be used to create short and simple flipped videos to send to your class.
- **Explain Everything-** is an interactive app which can be used to create presentations, lessons and videos using drawing tools to illustrate or write a concept.
- **Purplemash** is available for free during the Coronavirus crisis. The site has resources for literacy and numeracy that can be pitched at many levels.
<https://2simple.com/free-access/?campaign=3f314708-5ef0-11ea-9175-062a0562a518>
- **Oxford Owl** (accessed at https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/?fbclid=IwAR0UL4FTi_mfFI_n3E1CP3emL-) A range of free eBooks for 3 – 11 years. Parents and teachers can register for free.
- **Mashable** accessed at <https://mashable.com/2013/04/07/ebooks-for-children/?europe=true> 12 children's e-books which can be downloaded free of charge.
- **NI Libraries** can be accessed at <https://librariesniuk.overdrive.com/> The website offers free eBooks and eMagazines.
- **Accelerated Reader (AR)** is a reading management and monitoring programme that aims to foster independent reading. The internet-based software assesses reading age, and suggests books that match children's needs and interests. The children take computerised quizzes online once they complete the book. Please note, schools must have an account with Renaissance Learning in order to access this from home. This is not a free resource.
- **Guided reading activities** (attached) supplied by Michael O'Kane and shared on Twitter [@learn_ni](#)
- **INTO Film** can be accessed at <https://intofilm.org> have made member-facing activities freely available to all due to COVID-19. There are a range of primary age activities which include application of film knowledge, critical thinking and literacy skills.
- **ICT Games** are on-screen games for literacy and numeracy at <https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/index.html>
- **Number Fun** - Free of charge for one month and accessed at <https://parent.numberfunportal.com/free-account-page/> The portal contains over 200 song video presentations, accompanied by their respective resources for learning and teaching mathematics. There are four age ranges and nine themes in each age

range to include: number and place value; addition and subtraction; multiplication and division; fractions, ratio and proportion; measurement; shape; position and direction; statistics; algebra; and, extras.

- **Time Tables Rock Stars**- free full access during COVID-19 outbreak which can be accessed at <https://trockstars.com/page/covid19support>
- **Learning by Questions** accessed at <https://www.lbq.org/Blog/using-lbq-for-distance-learning> is offering a free 60 day evaluation account in light of COVID-19.
- **Primary Games** accessed at <https://www.primarygames.com/math.php> Free maths games
- **Mathletics** is curriculum-aligned lessons and activities for numeracy. Schools must have an account before this can be used.
- **Maths Puzzles and Problems** for Years 3 - 7 (attached).
- **BBC Bitesize Primary** can be accessed at <https://bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary> have a range of activities across all areas of the Northern Ireland Curriculum.
- **BBC Super Movers**- free active learning programme for children in KS1 and KS2.
- **Topic based projects** which can be shared through online learning platforms, the school app or website **DKfindout.com** and **Natgeokids.com** are useful websites for research for a World Around Us project. Some schools have 'set' a project within Teams for groups of children to collaborate on e.g. research all about a country.
- **Explorify** which can be accessed at <https://explorify.wellcome.ac.uk> Free resources to explore scientific concepts.
- **Natural History Museum** which can be accessed at <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/schools/teaching-resources.html> Free resources for the World Around Us programme.
- **Scratch** to develop interactive stories, games, and animations <https://scratch.mit.edu/ideas#>
- **Minecraft** <http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk/STEMWorks/minecraft/> CCEA resource using Minecraft to explore the Vikings.
- **YouTube PE Skill School** Progressive and age/stage relevant Primary PE Challenges and most can be done at home with few resources.
- **Go Noodle**- free resources with movement and mindfulness videos created by child development experts available at <https://www.gonoodle.com>
- **YouTube Art for Kids Hub** Weekly ideas to ensure progression and appreciation of primary school art.
- **Tate Kids** which can be accessed at <https://www.tate.org.uk/kids> to explore art and artists.

- **The Kitchen Table Classroom: art and learning at home**
<https://www.kitchentableclassroom.com/best-virtual-gallery-tours/> Take a virtual tour of famous art galleries.
- **The Worldwide Art Gallery** accessed at
<http://www.theartgallery.com.au/KidsArt.html> Children can submit their art work for publication.
- Scholastic are offering free resources from PreK and Kindergarten to Grades 6+ which can be accessed at
<http://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html> Please note spelling is American but some lovely stories to listen to, word match activities, quizzes and information about authors.
- TTS are offering free downloadable activity books for 5- 7 years and 7 – 11 years at
<https://www.tts-group.co.uk/home+learning+activities.html>
- Oliver Jeffers, the children's author from Belfast, has taken to the internet to do a live reading of one of his books each night and talking about where he got his ideas for the stories. The link to his readings can be found at
<https://www.oliverjeffers.com/books#/abookaday/>
- **Southern Health & Social Care Trust – Autism Services** accessed at:
<http://www.southerntrust.hscni.net/Autism.htm>
- **Education Authority Autism Advisory Intervention Service:**
<https://www.eani.org.uk/services/pupil-support-services/autism-advisory-intervention-service-aais>

How to clean DEVICES

Our electronic devices can be a breeding ground for germs and bacteria. Many viruses, including coronavirus, can stick around for several hours or even days after being touched by or otherwise coming into contact with an infected person. With that knowledge, keeping them clean can be as important as keeping ourselves protected in order to avoid becoming ill and maintaining a high level of hygiene and cleanliness. We have therefore created this guide to help you clean your devices effectively.

Always

Use wrung out alcohol wipes. Apple states that using a 70% isopropyl alcohol wipe or disinfectant wipe is ideal for the outside of a handset. To be on the extra safe side, power down the device before cleaning it. If you use a screen protector or protective case, you can clean these gently with warm water and soap. Just make sure you remove them from the phone first. While you CAN use general disinfectant spray, make sure it's sprayed onto a clean, soft cloth first, and not applied directly to the device. It will need to say something along the lines of 'kill 99.9% of bacteria' on it to be effective.

MOBILE PHONES & TABLETS

Turn the laptop all the way off before starting any kind of cleaning and always unplug it from the mains. If you can remove the battery of the device, do so. Wipe the screen with a dry microfibre cloth, then thoroughly wring out an alcohol wipe and repeat before returning with a dry cloth. The rest of the laptop can be cleaned with an alcohol wipe, much like a mobile phone, but be careful to wring it out to avoid unnecessary liquid dripping into the inner circuits. Be sure to clean thoroughly on and around the keys and any other buttons, but not between any open cracks.

LAPTOPS & COMPUTERS

Remove any batteries the controller might use (Xbox controllers sometimes have batteries in the back). Use alcohol wipes and be sure to get into the crevices around the sides as well as all the buttons on a video game controller, then dry it immediately with a microfibre cloth. On a console, pay specific attention to things like the power buttons and disc/cartridge eject buttons if there are any. If you have a vacuum cleaner with an appropriate attachment, use this to remove things like dust or food prior to using an alcohol wipe. A microfibre cloth will also do the job but make sure it's clean and dry before you use it.

GAME CONTROLLERS (& CONSOLES)

Use alcohol wipes like with laptops and keyboards. Make sure they're unplugged and leave them to dry a little after using disinfectant wipes. If you have a Hoover with the right attachments, be sure to give it a once over first to remove food and debris. Compressed air is also great for keyboards. Use short, sharp bursts and aim to push dust towards somewhere you can Hoover it easily. Lightly dampen a cotton swab with rubbing alcohol and be sure to get between the keys as much as possible. Things like mice, headphones and microphones also need to be disinfected with wipes. If your keyboard is wireless, remove the batteries before you clean it. Don't let any moisture leak inside the keyboard and dry them with a clean microfibre cloth.

KEYBOARD & MICE

Never

Don't submerge the device in bleach or soapy water. Similarly, do not clean the device whilst it's charging or otherwise plugged into another device. Using alcohol wipes on things like leather cases or other fabric and material should also be avoided as it could damage them. Don't clean phone cases with in-built batteries or other electronics with soap and water. A big thing to remember is to not use straight rubbing alcohol. It can damage the oleophobic and hydrophobic coatings that keep oil and water from damaging the display and ports. Finally, don't use regular house-hold surface cleaners (non-disinfectant ones) on phones and tablets - they are too abrasive and may damage them irreversibly.

As with mobiles, avoid using water to clean the more delicate parts of your laptop such as keys and ports. While some of the more modern phones can be waterproof, laptops aren't and it will almost certainly cause damage and irreparable.

Do not use soapy water or bleach on the controllers and definitely not on the console itself. Make sure controllers are unplugged and inactive before cleaning them to avoid any problems with the electronics. Similarly, consoles should not be left on and need to be unplugged from the mains before being cleaned. Stay well away from the ports on consoles too, as any liquids could damage the interior.

Don't clean them with warm soapy water. The electronics in these are not designed to be waterproof like some modern mobile phones and tablets. Also, don't use too much rubbing alcohol on keyboards as they could remove the lettering on top of keys.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

General Tips

1

Don't rub too hard. A gentle swabbing will be sufficient and excess cleaning could damage your devices. Wait a few minutes for the disinfectant to work, then wipe it clean.

2

How often you clean your electronics depends on a number of factors such as how much you come into contact with other people. Be sensible and practical.

3

Keep hands and faces as clean as possible. You'll have to wipe clean electronics less if you're nice and clean using them.

4

Remember, some germs are good and can help build a healthy immune system in children, but you can never be too careful with coronavirus.

5

Do not use regular kitchen sponges to clean devices - often they contain as many or more germs than our phones.

6

Consider using hands-free devices instead of pressing the phone to your face while making a phone call. If there's anything nasty on your phone, the last place you want it is near your face.

Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



Sources:

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<https://waterandhealth.org/disinfect/cleaning-disinfecting-electronic-devices/>
<https://www.merrymaids.com/cleaning-tips/quick-tips/how-to-clean-and-disinfect-electronic-devices/>
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