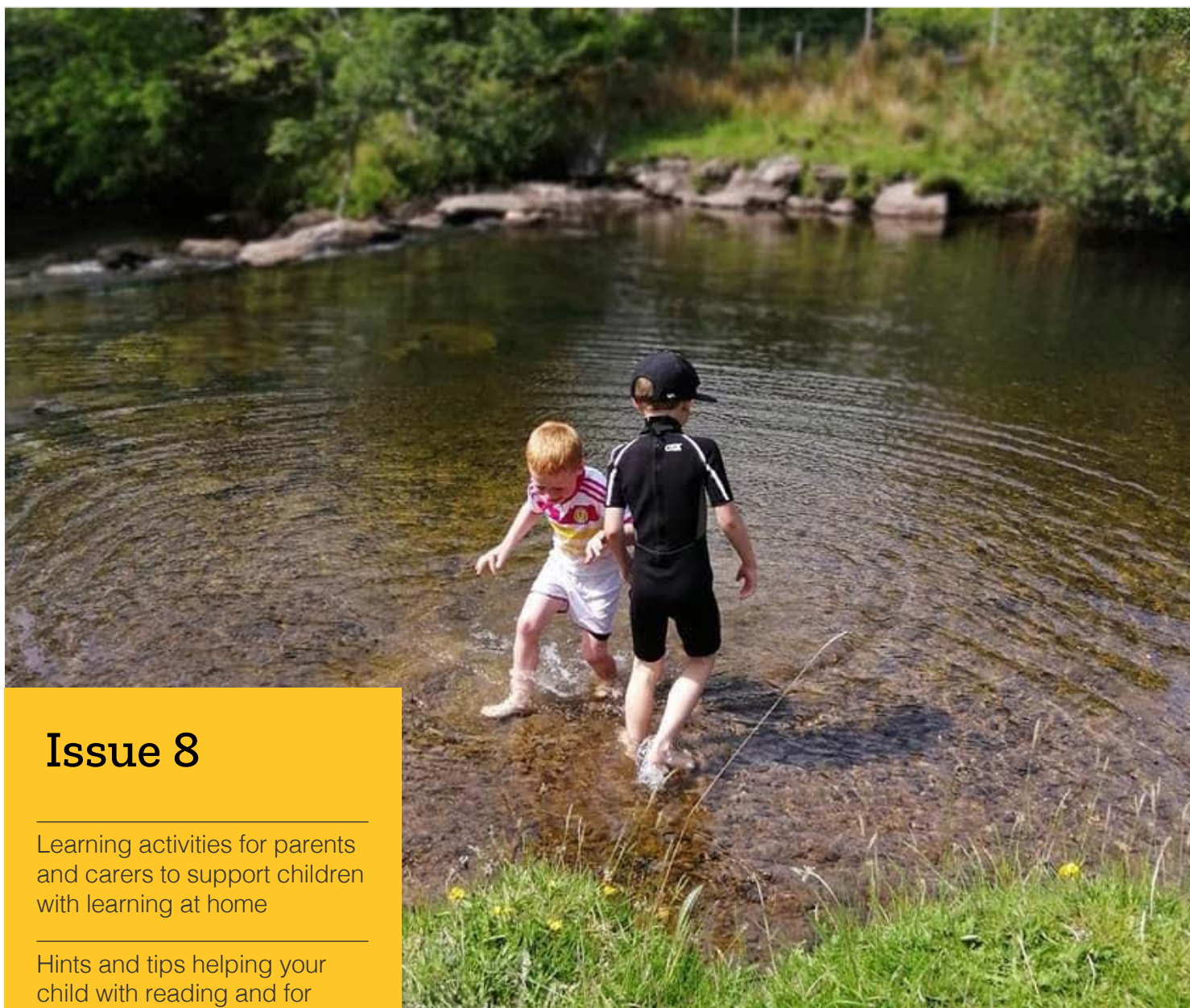


Scotland Learns

Parents and Carers Newsletter

25 June 2020



Issue 8

Learning activities for parents and carers to support children with learning at home

Hints and tips helping your child with reading and for those with a deaf child

Advice for those young people planning on going to college

Creativity challenge



**TELL
STORIES
WITH
SOUNDS**

In this edition you will find a new set of learning activities to support your child's learning at home. There is information and advice for parents and carers including helping your child with reading, advice for those with deaf children and information about colleges.

We hope you have found the learning activities and links, hints and tips in #ScotlandLearns useful.

Sign up 

Learning activities

Literacy and English



This week we have a few suggestions to help to encourage your child or young person to think and write about the different seasons of the year.

- Talk to your child (nursery age to P1) about what they see when they are out and about. For example, sunshine or leaves on the trees. You could talk about the seasons.
- Support your child (P2-P4) to create a list of words and phrases to describe each season. Ask them to write about each season.
- You can help your older children (P5-P7) to develop a list of fun 'summertime facts' about Scotland.
- Encourage young people (S1-S3) to choose activities to make an imaginative plan for summer. They could present the plan as a poster or as a film.

[View activities →](#)



Numeracy and mathematics

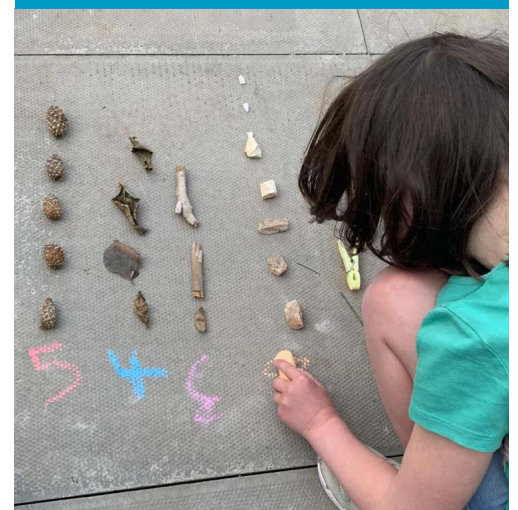


This week we have some suggestions for you to use everyday situations to help children and young people practice using numbers.

- Planning simple activities outdoors in the park or a garden can help younger children (nursery age to P1) to add and subtract using everyday objects.
- Children (P2-P4) can think about how fractions can be used in everyday jobs and situations. They can also have a go at measuring the length of different objects outdoors.
- There are a few suggestions of how to help older primary children (P5-P7) to use fractions, decimals and percentages to solve practical problems. Using the outdoors, they can try the long jump and measure the distances.
- Young people (S1-3) can solve real-life problems by considering information. They can invent their own coins to help understand the value of money.

[View activities →](#)

Learning activities



Maths can be fun, and these activities are designed to be enjoyable. Sometimes we may use mathematical terms which are unfamiliar to you or your child. Please check handy hints and tips with these terms.

[Hints and tips →](#)

Learning activities

Health and wellbeing



Looking after our health and wellbeing as best we can is really important for us all in these uncertain times. We have ideas and activities for children and young people at different ages that you might like to include in your family's daily life.

- There are activities for younger children (nursery age to P1) to help you shop, prepare and eat food. This will help them understand the importance of keeping food fresh.
- You can ask your child (P2-P4) to sort food into groups. They can make two lists, one with foods that can be eaten without being cooked, and one with foods that must be cooked.
- Talk to your child (P5-P7) about why certain foods need to be stored in a fridge. Ask them what would happen to the foods if they weren't in a fridge.
- There are activities for young people (S1-S3) to help them understand more about the foods they choose to eat.



[View activities →](#)

Themed learning

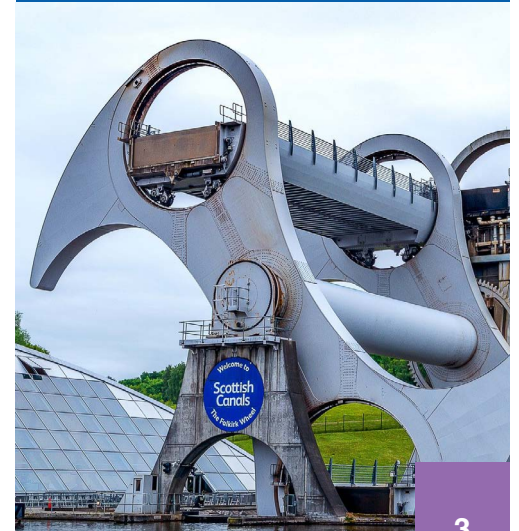


This week we provide you with some activities using landmarks in Scotland such as The Kelpies and the Falkirk Wheel.

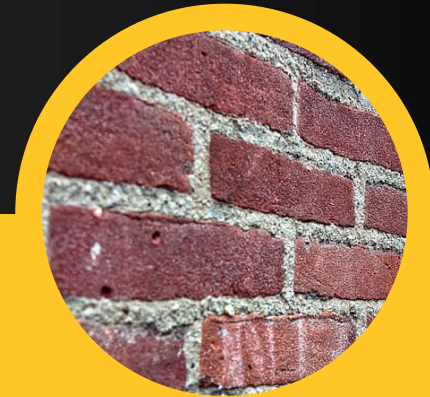
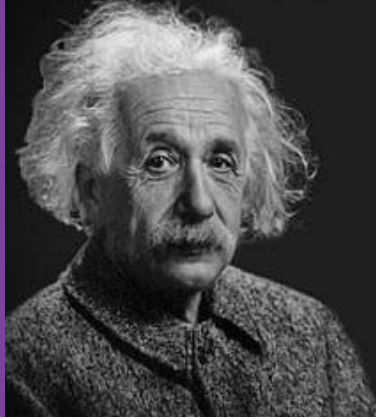
- For children in nursery or the early stages of primary school you can help them find out more about the Falkirk Wheel and what it's for. They can also make their own model barge using materials that you have at home.
- Children in P2-P4 might enjoy designing a barge for people to live on. They can find out more about mythical creatures called kelpies. You might be able to get some pictures of The Kelpies to show them.
- For older children in P5-P7 there are ideas for activities such as designing a leaflet for visitors to the Falkirk Wheel.
- Young people in secondary school (S1-S3) can plan activities for the summer such as a summer quiz. They can write their own scripts for a play that can involve family and friends.

[View activities →](#)

Learning activities



Foghlam Meadhan Gàidhlig



Learning activities through the medium of Gaelic

- Children and young people use Gaelic to make games to help them with their fluency.
- For numeracy, children learn about patterns found indoors and outdoors, make a game and plan how to spend money. Older children investigate mathematicians in history and have fun with coordinates through playing a game.
- This week's health and wellbeing activities encourage children to share memories with family and friends. There are also activities about being safe and kind while online.
- Are you looking for opportunities for your child to be using Gaelic over the summer months? Find [details of activities](#) provided by Gaelic groups. Also check [BBC Alba broadcast schedules](#) and [Radio nan Gàidheal](#). Please check with your school for further details.
- [Learn Gaelic](#) has useful resources to support learning Gaelic. You can sign up to receive a daily Gaelic word, with a guide to pronunciation.
- Check out [Stòrlann's resources](#).

[Online support, Gaelic4parents](#)



[View activities](#)



On Wednesday, the Scottish Government published Coronavirus (COVID-19) [advice for Gaelic Medium Education](#).

Abairtean / Phrases



Dèanaibh roghainnean fallain
Make healthy choices



Smaoinichibh air cho math is a tha sibh air Gàidhlig
Think of your successes in Gaelic



Cumaibh sàbhailte
Stay safe

Hints and tips

Each week we will share top tips and helpful advice for you as a family

Here are our top tips for this week



Hints and tips for parents with a deaf child

- Support your child to play freely and explore different objects and different environments.
- Support your child's language by naming objects and describing back to them what they are doing, using plenty of positivity and praise.
- Puppets made from old socks or gloves are good for helping your child understand different emotions and practice role play.
- Create an indoor disco by shining a phone torch onto the wall in time to the music.
- Stories and songs are a good way to help your child develop spoken and written language.
- Have fun labelling items around your home. Say the names of items as you label them so your child can hear how they sound and see the word.

The [Parentzone Scotland support for BSL](#) webpage has lots of helpful links.

NHS Inform have videos with general health information around Covid-19 [BSL video with Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) guidance](#).

Help with reading

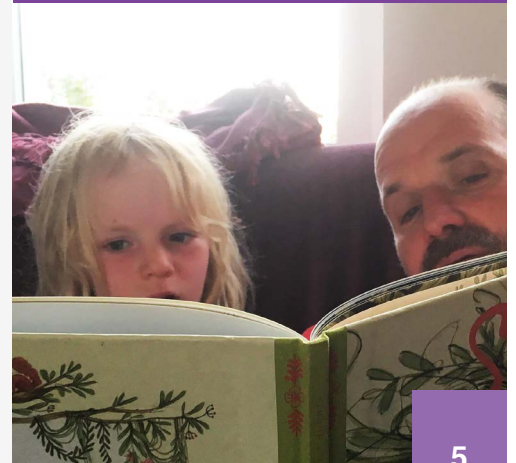
If your child requires additional support they may need help to read. As they get older, they may want more independence. If your child uses Microsoft Word, there is a helpful, free programme on Glow. The 'immersive reader' reads words and sentences aloud.

Find out how to sign in to [Glow](#) and access the materials by watching this short video.

How?

- Sign into Glow
- Go to 'App Library'
- In the search bar, type '365' then click 'go'
- Click on the 'Office 365 Home' tile, click 'Add to my Launch Pad'
- Click on Launch Pad, then open 'Office 365 Home'
- Click on 'Word', then 'New blank document'
- Copy and paste the words to be read aloud onto the page
- Click the 'view' tab, then click 'immersive reader'
- Click the green play button.

Hints and tips

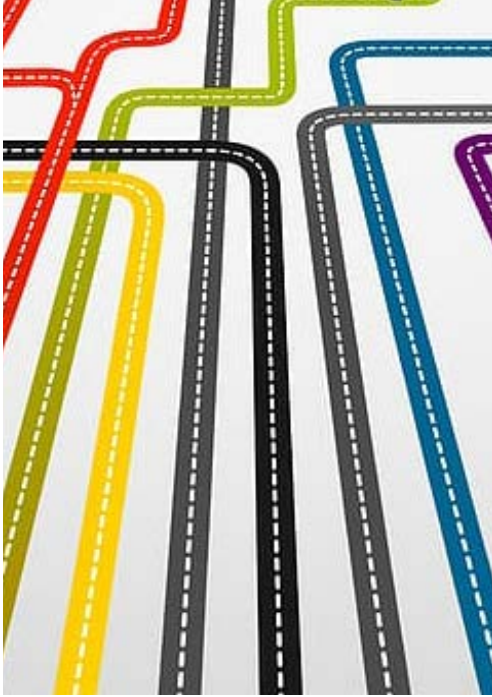


Hints and tips



College courses 2020/21

- If you or your child is considering going to college this year then you can use the [choose college](#) site. This can help you to find colleges near your home.
- All colleges are recruiting now and offer a range of courses. Colleges will be able to give you and/or your child good advice about the courses and financial information to support applications.
- [Student information Scotland](#) provide information on student finances and funding. Find out more about other financial support at [summer support for students](#).



What's new this week?

Scottish Qualifications Authority results

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) is encouraging as many learners as possible to sign up for [MySQA](#) and 'Get Results Ready'.



Advice on bereavement during the pandemic

The death of someone close to your child is painful at any time but losing someone you love during a pandemic can make grieving even harder. As a family you may not have your usual sources of support available. Parentzone have advice on [Bereavement during the pandemic: helping your grieving child](#).

Free school meals

Last week the Scottish Government announced that free school meals funding will be extended to cover the summer. [Find more information](#).



Useful links



www.AimHi.co

AIMHi have produced a summer timetable includes learning adventures like “What do stars sound like?” and workshops like “How to write a poem in 10 minutes”.

All of **AimHi’s** lessons can be found at www.AimHi.co or through their social media channels - @AimHiLive. - [find out more](#).

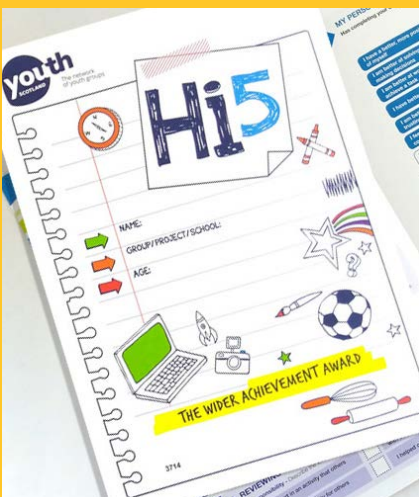
This summer they have new sessions and activities. These include:

- a session by environmentalist George Monbiot on 2 July
- creating a new book with writing from AimHi students.

Maths Inside at the University of Glasgow are currently running a creative maths Photo Competition Summer 2020. It’s open to everyone living in Scotland. Can you see the maths inside everyday life? The house, exercise route, daily dog walks and the weekly shop turned into a playground... your chance to get creative and make mathematical connections! [Find out more](#) and enter by Sunday 28 June on their website.

Youth Scotland have 1000 **free** Hi5 (for ages 5+) and Dynamic Youth Awards (for ages 10+) available on a first come first served basis. Both awards are nationally recognised. To get this free resource [click here](#) to email Youth Scotland.

This [pack](#) from **Save the Children** and hosted by **Play Scotland** is crammed with resources, suggestions and activities to support your child’s learning at home. There are seven learning topics and some family games designed for parents with children aged three to six.



Creativity challenge for the week

TELL STORIES WITH SOUNDS

Think of a story that you know and love. It could be a book, a fairy tale or a film.

Think of the most important moment of the whole story. You are going to come up with a sound for that moment. It could be a scream, a crash, a roar of a space ship, the growl of a bear, a sob, a cheer, anything.

Now add four more sound effects that help to tell your story. Think about a beginning, a middle and an end and the most important moments in the tale.

Once you have all five sounds, put them together and share them with your family. If you can, you could share them with your friends by video, film them, or record them as a sound recording. See if others can guess your story from listening to your soundscape, and experiment with different stories.

This is a really great way to exercise your imagination and problem solving skills.

Children can do this on their own, with a parent, or as a family.



We would love to hear all your ideas on social media using the hashtag **#creativelearning**



View [tell stories with sounds](#).

Why not get this newsletter emailed directly to you?
Or pass it on to anyone you think might be interested?

Sign up →