



Outdoor Adventurers  
www.theoutdoorlearningcompany.co.uk  
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Phone- 07523918580



Nursery/Pre-Schools - Holiday Clubs - Home Ed Sessions - Birthday Parties

Hello Adventurers,

The sunshine continues and what a fantastic month it has been. We have lots of activities for you to try over the next couple of weeks. We are sure the weather is going to be great and you will be able to have lots of fun with nature. Happy Adventuring people.

In this months letter:

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Bird house challenge  
Leaf Printing  
Tracking  
Knot of the month  
Leaf decorations

We hope you enjoy this newsletter. As always we would love to see what you have all been up to on your adventures. So please email any pictures to admin@theoutdoorlearningcompany.co.uk

**Here are some spring photo's we received from our Outdoor Adventurers.**





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- Recognisable through a black eye strap.
- Found all across the UK except in some highland areas.
- Found in Gardens, Woodlands, Parks and Farmland.
- The Blue Tit has yellow under parts.
- The Blue Tit is very similar to the Great Tit. The Great Tit has a black crown.

## FACT FILE: Blue Tit

This is a fantastic time to see Blue Tits in the garden, woodlands, parks and fields. Their song is one of the most prominent this time of year.

From this month Blue Tits will tend to feed on insects found on twigs and tips of shoots. During the colder months when insects are hard to come by, the Blue Tit will feed on nuts. If you have a bird table in the garden the the Blue Tit will be one of the most regular visitors during the colder months.

The Blue Tit will nest in holes in trees or in bird boxes. They will line their nests with dead leaves, moss, wool and even hair.

The Blue Tit lays a clutch of eggs. Each clutch can contain between 8-12 eggs laid in one day. Once hatched the young chicks are usually fed with caterpillars and can usually fly within their first three weeks.

## Challenge: Bird table or Bird house



This challenge is a DIY challenge. With an adult, why not design and build a bird house or bird table.

Once completed you will be able to watch the Blue Tit enjoy what you have built and will give yourself an opportunity to enjoy watching this bird closely.

We would love to see what you have made, so why not send us pictures.

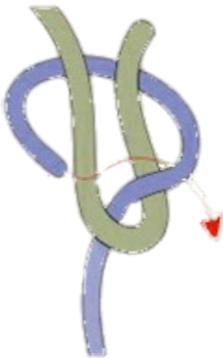


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## Knots- Fisherman's knot



1. Taking the green line from the bite, bring it up alongside its standing part. Hold the working end of the green line in place to form an eye. Bring the blue line and thread it through the eye and take it behind the green line. Bring the working end over eye and under itself.

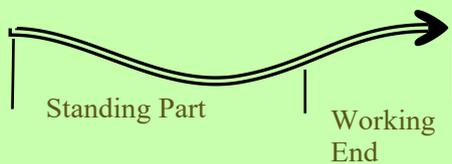


2. Pull on both standing parts to tighten.

## Knot of the Week - Sheet Bend

The Sheet bend is a quick and effective way of tying two lines together. The lines do not have to be the same thickness. It is also easy to untie. It is not the strongest knot but will work well under moderate stress.

This knot is dated back to the 18 century and like many knots it was first used aboard ships. This knot is often found today in use with nets.



## Knots

A knot can be an essential part of the Outdoor Adventurers Kit. If you are able to master a number of knots then you can do anything in the Outdoors from building a shelter to making a raft. Knots make life easier in the wilderness.

This knot can be printed out and laminated so it can be added to your Outdoor Adventurers Handbook. Or just learn and practice this knot so it becomes second nature to you , and you will always be able to use it , wherever you are and whatever the situation.



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## Leaf activities

### Leaf Printing

With the leaves starting to return to the trees its a great time of year to have ago at leaf printing. It is a very simple activity to do. First, pick some of your favourite shaped leaves. Second, Paint your favourite colours onto the leaves. Third, put the leaf paint side down on to a piece of paper. Repeat this for all the leaves you have collected.

Why not try printing onto a cloth bag. Or you could use a sheet to make a flag for a den that you have made.

You could even try to draw a picture using leaf prints.

What ever you decide to do with your printing, we would love to see any pictures that you make.



### Leaf decorations

Leaf decorations are a fantastic way to personalise, your garden, a den or a space in a woodland.

All you need for this activity are lots of leaves and some string. At the end of the string make a stopper know. Then make small holes in the leaves and thread the string through the holes. You should end up with something similar to that of the picture on the left.

There are many different shaped leaves and different coloured leaves, so you can experiment with your leaf decorations. We would love to see what you come up with.



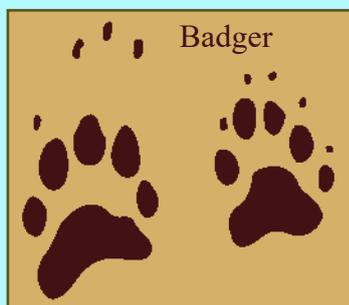
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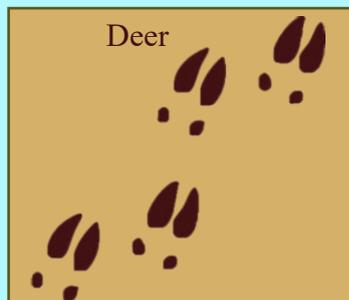
## Tracking

Tracking is a great activity that can be done all year round. All any Outdoor Adventurer needs to know is what to look out for. We hope this little guide will get you started looking for tracks. We have four different tracks for you to go out and find. Good luck and be patient. This isn't about finding the animal but finding their tracks, all we are doing is looking for evidence that an animal has been around. If you have a pet, maybe you can find their print in the garden.



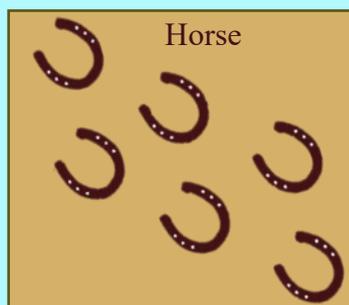
At the front of a badger track there are little marks that are made by their long claws. The other marks are made by the pads on their feet. It is the long claws at the front of this track that show us it's a badger.

Quite often another clue they may leave behind is their hair. This may be found on a fence or a bush as they have brushed past it.



A deer paw print consists of two small dots at the back with two longer pad prints at the front. The paw print is almost symmetrical with both sides of the paw print looking very similar.

Deer do not hang around and are startled by the slightest sound. So if you want to see one you will have to be very quiet. We recommend you take a pair of binoculars with you.



Horses have man-made shoes put on their feet which means that the track they leave behind is not natural, making them easy to spot when you are out and about. It is a simple U-shape that will be imprinted in the mud.

Be careful not to approach a horse, especially when they are with their young.



These may look like two separate tracks, but we must remember that some animals will have different paw prints for the front and rear paws.

One other thing to remember when identifying tracks is the size of the track. A squirrel track will be a lot smaller than a badger track. So if you think you might have found a squirrel track but the tracks are large, then you have probably found something else.



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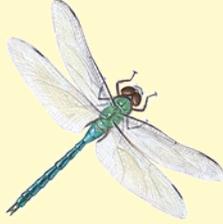
## Activity Sheet

### Bingo

All you have to do is keep an eye out for these eight items that will be ever present during the month of May. Once you have spotted the item put a big tick through it.

We hope that you find them all and can complete this bingo card.

Good luck with this bingo.

			
Butterfly	Lambs	Hedgehog	Cow parsley
			
dandelions	Bluebells	Blue tits	Dragonfly

### Wordsearch

Q	S	A	S	N	O	I	L	E	D	N	A	D	G
W	O	Q	P	T	C	A	K	H	M	B	E	F	S
D	U	S	R	G	N	S	U	J	O	N	N	G	C
F	I	C	I	B	M	D	T	F	J	Y	I	I	G
G	V	L	N	B	A	G	E	D	L	V	O	O	Y
B	C	L	G	D	Y	O	S	F	H	A	L	E	J
U	Z	E	F	I	P	H	R	C	V	O	L	K	U
S	A	B	T	O	O	E	D	B	C	S	S	B	I
U	F	E	U	N	T	G	Y	H	R	R	N	M	O
N	D	U	J	T	R	D	U	A	A	I	N	A	G
J	P	L	U	S	T	E	P	P	Z	Y	B	L	Z
K	O	B	H	I	U	H	I	J	S	F	F	J	A
F	I	B	N	T	I	L	O	U	Q	C	F	H	C
V	D	R	A	G	O	N	F	L	Y	J	D	G	V

May  
 Butterfly  
 Lamb  
 Hedgehog  
 Parsley  
 Dandelions  
 Bluebell  
 Dragonfly  
 Sun  
 Spring