



Activity ideas to support Learning at Home 2-5 year olds

Early Years Service, Children's Services

Buckinghamshire Council

Game of Hide and Seek

One person hides and the other seeks like Percy and his friends in the story.

You need 2 players at least - one hiding and one finding.

The seeker counts to 20 and then tries to find the person hiding.

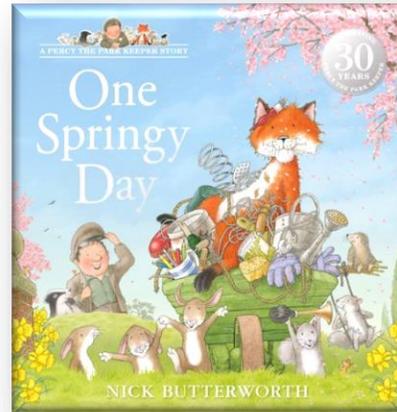
They say, 'Coming to find you ready or not'.

Extend this by taking the game outdoors.

Have a go at counting to 99 and then 100 - like Percy does at the beginning of the story.

Shout 'found you' when you do.

How does it feel to hide? What can you see and hear?



One Springy Day – By Nick Butterworth

Spring - Artwork

Collect items and make a Spring picture or pattern.

Use Natural resources, such as twigs, leaves, stones.

Notice shapes and patterns e.g. twig/leaf/twig/leaf/ twig. See if your child can add the next one.



Use words to describe the objects..... hard, soft, small, large, bumpy, smooth, shiny, sticky etc?

I-Spy

Take it in turns to **Play I-Spy** on a walk or at home.

'I Spy with my little eye....something the colour of green'.

Take it in turns to guess. You could start to provide clues if it proves tricky, such as it grows on the ground... could it be grass? You could make this harder, by introducing something beginning with the letter g.

Ensure you can see it, bees, trees, flowers, hedge, leaves, sky.

Spring is Here

Sing to tune of "[The Farmer in the Den](#)"

"The days of Spring are here,
Warm, sunny days are near,
Flowers and bees, and birds in trees.
The days of spring are here."



Whilst outside explore the feel of being outside, can you spot any flowers or bees? Look out for daffodils and tulips. Note the height, how many hands tall are they – over the weeks do they get taller?



Percy the Park Keeper - One Springy Day

To hear the [story being read](#) by Nick Butterworth

Perhaps visit your local library and select another Percy book to explore or try Nick's you tube channel.

'Lost Acorns' by Nick Butterworth explores who has dug up all of Percy's bulbs. Look at other pictures and talk about the park animals like badger, fox, squirrel.

Where do they live, what do they eat?

Visit your local park and look for squirrels and mole hills.

Leaf Rubbing

Collect some leaves and using white paper and a wax crayon on its side if you have one or crayons, pencils, felt pens?

Lay the leaf under the paper and crayon over it and see if you can spot a pattern.

Have a go at different size / shapes.

Are leaves the same size / shape? You

could cut out the leaf shapes and make a collage picture.



Information for Parents & Carers



Top Tips

- Allow children to enjoy the game of Hide and Seek, encourage the language and counting skills, 'coming to find you ready or not'. Talk about the hiding places children have found and discuss where they good places to hide. Talk about where the Fox hid in the story.
- You may have some ideas about how children could create their own artwork, however, try to encourage the children to tell you about what they have made, and comment on any patterns you may see.
- With I spy, use the sound of the lower-case letter rather than the capital - g not G, r not R.
- Support children by understanding how the fox would feel, about being covered in the items and running off. What can we do to make the fox feel better? What do you do when you are upset? Have you been stuck?

Chatting Matters

Vocabulary and increasing the number of new words you child hears every day is very important for future learning. Use words like **hard, soft, big, small, large, biggest, smallest, stuck, boingy, hollow, pruning, trail, stuck, teamwork, tugged.**

Find out more about your child's development

[What to expect when – Developmental Guide for Parents](#)

If you have any concerns about your child's development the first thing you can do is chat to your child's key person Nursery, Pre-school or Childminder.

Find out More

[Teddington Teaches Nature](#)

[BBC Tiny Happy People](#)

[Words for Life - ideas for Parents](#)

[Hungry Little Minds Campaign](#)



Communication and Language

30-50 months

You might notice that your child can:

- Use simple sentences with 3-4 words to talk about what they are doing or what is happening.
- Talk about what we are doing now, and what might happen later.
- When they are talking with you, they talk about lots of different things – what I am doing, what I like or what I have done.

Expressive Arts and Design

30-50 months

You might notice that your child can:

- Sing some familiar songs.
- Begin to move with rhythm, especially when they hear music they like.
- Tell you a story about what is happening as they are playing e.g. dressing up or using toy people

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

30-50 months

You might notice that your child can:

- Know when I am sad or cross and that if I shout or say unkind things, I might make my friends sad or worried too.
- Ask grownups for help when I need it.