

Fancy Dress Challenge



Ready to step into a world of imagination?

From superheroes and pirates to princesses and fairies, this challenge pack is full of activities to allow your creativity to run wild!

For even more programme ideas check out our 'Fancy Dress' board over on www.Pinterest.com/PawprintFamily

#AdventureForAll
www.PawprintFamily.com

Meet the FAMILY

Hi there! We're Charlotte & Jamie, the husband and wife team behind the Pawprint Family and we believe in #AdventureForAll.

It's our mission to help leaders, teachers and parents save time by providing ideas and opportunities to help them deliver everyday adventure and skills for life. We do this through our family of brands; find out more below and head to the website for your next adventure!



PAWPRINT BADGES

Pawprint Badges provides thousands of free activity ideas and resources to help leaders, teachers and parents deliver fun and adventure.

Every activity helps you share skills for life and is linked to one of our pawesome embroidered badges. Build your collection and celebrate adventures, new skills and knowledge gained.

PAWPRINT TRAILS

Pawprint Trails are treasure-hunt style walks around locations in the UK. Solve puzzles, track down the answers and explore everything our great country has to offer.

From historical sights to popular culture discover something new or rediscover a love for where you live then collect the badge to remember your adventures!

Whether you're looking for the perfect addition to your next family holiday or a few hours of fun with friends; each trail can be completed in a few hours or extended with our activity suggestions in to a weekend or a week's worth of fun!

PAWPRINT TALES

Pawprint Tales are fully illustrated stories that can be enjoyed by the whole family. Join Alfie (our fox-red Labrador) on his adventures around the UK – solving puzzles, turning detective and making new friends. With twists and turns, every tale is an opportunity to discover new places, people and history without needing to leave the comfort of your own home.

Enjoy Pawprint Tales alongside your Pawprint Trails or as a standalone adventure!

PAWPRINT TRUST

Every brand in the Pawprint Family supports the Pawprint Trust with a percentage of profits from every sale providing grants to young people. We're passionate about enabling young people to access life changing adventures.

Share your adventures and join us over on our social channels for even more adventures and a nosy behind the scenes at Pawprint HQ!



@pawprintfamily



@pawprint_family

PAWPRINT BADGES

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www.pawprintfamily.com/terms-conditions



Craft



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- 🎉 Use your imagination to design a new and unique fancy dress costume.
- 🎉 Have a go at turning yourself or a friend into an animal of your choice using face paint.

Did you know?

The longest make-up job in film was endured by Rod Steiger during his role in The Illustrated Man in 1969. He was in full make-up for up to 20 hours each day!

- 🎉 Dorothy's ruby slippers from The Wizard of Oz are one of the most recognisable pieces of costume in the history of film and theatre. Try creating your own by coating a cheap/old pair of shoes in glue and covering in red glitter. This works perfectly with a pair of ballet pumps.
- 🎉 Build a space helmet out of papier-mâché and dress up as an astronaut.
- 🎉 Make your own superhero cape to help you to glide through the sky and save your community from villains.

How?

Cut the sleeves off an old t-shirt and open it up whilst laying it flat on the floor or a table. Then, carefully cut one side of the t-shirt off but keep the neck hole intact. (Note: If children are playing with their capes alone and without the supervision of parents, it is recommended that the neck hole is cut and secured with Velcro). Your cape is now ready to decorate with materials of your choice (e.g. stickers, paint, glitter etc).

- 🎉 Use origami to craft a paper pirate hat. Use the free resource on our website to help you with step-by-step instructions.
- 🎉 Masquerade balls are parties where many people wear masks and date all the way back to the 15th century. The idea is for guests to hide their true identity. Have a go at making your own mask and see if your family and friends can recognise you.

Here's an idea!

Why not create a poster to advertise a masquerade ball of your own? You could even design some invitations and give them out to friends and family.

- 🎉 Make or decorate a crown to turn yourself into the king or queen of the castle.
- 🎉 Craft a magical wand or wicked broomstick out of junk model materials.



Food



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- 🎉 In April 2017, 888 people made a world record for the largest gathering of people dressed as fruits and vegetables in Japan. Create your own food themed fancy dress costume.

Here's an idea!

Why not organise a party where all of the guests have to come dressed as their favourite food?

- 🎉 Hold a fancy dress themed buffet for your family, friends or group. You could include wizard wands made out of pretzel sticks and chocolate or clown hats made out of an upside down ice cream cone.
- 🎉 In some cultures, costumes are worn to bring good luck. Complete your own research to find out what foods are known to bring good luck.
- 🎉 Bake and decorate some gingerbread men so they are all wearing different fancy dress costumes.

Did you know?

The Benidorm Fancy Dress Party is an annual event held in Benidorm, Alicante in Spain that sees thousands of locals and tourists dressing up in fancy dress costumes every year. The event attracts people from all over the world and over 30,000 people attended the most recent event in 2024.

- 🎉 Every clown's make-up is different. Decorate clown face cupcakes and make sure each design is different.
- 🎉 Make and decorate your own shield cake. Perfect for a knight!
- 🎉 Assemble some edible marathon medals using decorated Oreo® cookies and fruit roll up type sweets such as Fruit Winders®.

Why?

Runners of the London Marathon have been dressing up in fancy dress for decades. The first person to run the marathon in a costume was Roger Bourbon, who wore a waiter's outfit in 1981. Since then, many people have joined in the fun and continue to show up year on year in amazing and wacky costumes.

- 🎉 Put together a magic wand by cutting out rice crispy treats in star shapes and adding lolly sticks. Why not add edible glitter for that extra sprinkle of magic?
- 🎉 Create cowboy hats using Rolos®, strawberry laces, and Pringles®.



Games



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Dress up as your favourite cartoon character and see how quickly you can run a race.

Why?

The fastest half marathon dressed as a cartoon character was achieved by Paul Underwood in April 2021. He ran in 1 hour, 22 minutes and 39 seconds.



Halloween is one of the most popular times for children to dress up. Take part in some Halloween themed games.



Go on a costume themed scavenger hunt.

What?

Children must dress in certain costumes (e.g. a pirate, fairy or knight etc). They must look around for items that link to their costume. For example, the pirate would be looking for pirate coins, the fairy may look for fairy wings and the knight might look for a shield. The player who finds the most items related to their character is the winner!



Many jobs have their very own costumes! For example, firefighters wear uniforms to stay safe and astronauts wear special spacesuits to help them to explore outer space. How many jobs can you identify from just seeing a picture of their uniform?



Play Simon Says, but with a fancy dress twist. All the commands must involve dressing up. For example: "Simon says, put on a pirate hat" or "Simon says, wave around a fairy wand".



Take part in a costume relay race.

How?

This game is played in teams. Each player takes turns running to a spot where they have to put on a piece of clothing, like a top hat, cape, pirate hat, or pair of shoes. Once they've put the item on properly, they run back to tag the next person on their team, who then does the same with a different piece of clothing. The first team to have all their players dressed up in fancy clothes wins!



Use your imagination to have a go at a theatre improvisation game. Players must act out a scene on the spot, without a script whilst dressed as a character. The key is to improvise based on the character they are playing.



Find out how many different kinds of hats can you wear at the same time without them falling off.



Other



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- 🎉 What do you want to be when you grow up? Dress up as that person and spend the day pretending to be them.
- 🎉 Fancy dress costumes have been around for centuries and were even used in ancient Greece for theatre performances. Take a trip to the theatre to see a show of your choice. What kind of costumes did they wear?
- 🎉 Take part in a local carnival and dress in brightly coloured clothing to join in the celebrations.
- 🎉 Challenge your friends to see who can get changed from one costume to another the quickest.

Did you know?

The most costume changes in a lead theatrical role is 37 and was achieved by Des Coghlan-Forbes in the National Youth Music Theatre Production of Our House in August 2024.

- 🎉 Visit a library to find out more about fancy dress throughout the years.
- 🎉 Start your own poll and ask people who their favourite fictional character is to dress up as. Who ends up at the top?
- 🎉 Attend a fancy dress party.
- 🎉 The largest gathering of people dressed as sumo wrestlers was 293 in Ireland on the 23rd of August 2015 for Purple House Cancer Support. Plan and organise your own themed fancy dress event to raise money for a charity that is important to you.
- 🎉 Organise a tea party where all of the guests turn up in their fanciest outfit.
- 🎉 Set up a photo booth and have fun taking silly photos dressed up as your favourite characters.
- 🎉 Find out about some of the most famous and recognisable costumes in film, theatre or television.
- 🎉 Explore one of the National Trust's family days out where children can dress up in historic costumes and learn about time periods such as the Anglo-Saxons and the Victorians. Visit <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/family-friendly/places-for-kids-to-dress-up> to find out more and discover the nearest location to you.

Adventure Complete?

Reward your young adventurers with their Fancy Dress Challenge badge to mark their achievements! Head to the website to bag yours, download certificates and discover even more adventures!



Create a Keepsake!

Experienced adventure? Made memories? Then it's time to create a keepsake! Our Pawprint Family camp blankets are the perfect place to sew your badges and look back on them for years to come.



Personalise it!

Got your camp blanket? Then it's time to make it yours! Our alphabet badges are big, bright and bold...the perfect addition to your camp blanket, hoodies, bags and more. What will you personalise first?



Even More Rewards!

We're all about added value here at Pawprint Family. In addition to the 1000s of free activity ideas and resources you'll find loyalty stickers in every order and you can claim Children's University learning hours too!



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