

# Mexico Challenge



**Grab your passport and jet set to Mexico!**

Explore Mexican culture, traditions, taste the food and maybe pick up a phrase or two as you adventure your way across the globe.

For even more programme ideas check out our 'Mexico' board over on  
[www.Pinterest.com/PawprintFamily](https://www.Pinterest.com/PawprintFamily)

**#AdventureForAll**  
[www.PawprintFamily.com](https://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



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# PAWPRINT BADGES

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**[www.pawprintfamily.com/terms-conditions](http://www.pawprintfamily.com/terms-conditions)**



# Craft

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- 📍 Build a 3D model of The Pyramid of Cholula, the largest pyramid in the world by volume, located in Puebla, Mexico.
- 📍 Make a sugar skull mask.

## What?

The Day of the Dead is traditionally celebrated on November 1st and 2nd. It originated from the Aztecs, who celebrated their ancestors. This is a huge time for celebration in Mexico to remember those who have passed away. Sugar skulls are created as gifts for family members and children during this time and represent the departed souls.

- 📍 The Cave of Swallows, located in Mexico, is home to ancient cave paintings that date back over 10,000 years! Have a go at creating some of your own cave paintings using art materials such as charcoal or oil pastels on brown card.
- 📍 Have a go at making a Mexican God's Eye craft using lolly sticks and coloured yarn. These ritual objects were made by the people of Mexico and used for protection.
- 📍 Lake Xochimilco in Mexico City is the only native habitat remaining for the axolotl. Draw a picture of this amazing and unique creature.

## Did you know?

The axolotl can regenerate or grow back body parts. This even includes their brain!

- 📍 Tacos are a traditional dish that originated in Mexico but are also enjoyed around the world. Craft some fun taco pals using construction paper, googly eyes, glue, scissors and a pen!
- 📍 Craft a guitar out of junk model materials to play on Cinco De Mayo.
- 📍 Make your own map of Mexico. For an extra challenge, why not add illustrations or cut and stick images of local food, animals or landmarks too?
- 📍 Paint a picture of your choice in the style of Frida Kahlo, a famous Mexican painter.
- 📍 Research Mexican folk art and have a go at creating some yourself.
- 📍 Make your own Papel Picado using colourful tissue paper and use them to decorate your home to celebrate Day of the Dead in style.



# Food

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- 📍 Make your own chocolate bars by melting your favourite chocolate, adding it to a mould and then topping with your favourite sweet treats.

## Why?

Chocolate actually originated in Mexico! The Aztecs created chocolate from cacao beans and often made it into a drink with added spices.

- 📍 Try the national dish of Mexico, Mole Poblano. This is a sauce made with chocolate, chilli, spices, nuts and seeds that is traditionally served over chicken or turkey.
- 📍 Whip up a Mexican recipe of your choice. Why not try Enchiladas, huevos rancheros or fajitas?
- 📍 Fix up your own tortillas from scratch.
- 📍 Visit a Mexican restaurant.
- 📍 Prepare a meal for your friends or family using corn as the main ingredient.

## Did you know?

Corn originated in Mexico around 9,000 years ago and is important in many of their foods and culture.

- 📍 Have a go at making a traditional Mexican dessert such as tres leches cake, flan, cajeta de Celaya or pan de elote.
- 📍 Mix up your usual hot drink by making a Mexican hot chocolate.

## How?

Pour 500ml milk into a saucepan and add 2 cinnamon sticks and stir over a medium heat for around 5 minutes. Remove the cinnamon sticks and add 2 tbsp of dark cocoa powder, ½ tsp of vanilla extract, ¼ tsp chilli powder and 2 tbsp of brown sugar. This recipe serves 2 but you can adapt based on how many people you are making for.

- 📍 Make an edible scene of Chichén Itzá, a famous archaeological site in Mexico that is also one of the Wonders of the World.
- 📍 Set up a DIY nacho station where you can add whatever toppings you like (e.g. cheese, olives, beans, ground beef, peppers etc) before popping under the grill to melt. Don't forget to complete with salsa, guacamole and sour cream!



# Games

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- 📍 Mexico has qualified for every World Cup since 1994 (1 of the 6 countries to do so). Organise your own football tournament between members of your friends or family.
- 📍 Go head to head in a traditional Mexican game of Atrapa el Sombrero.

## How?

Atrapa el Sombrero translates to 'Catch the Hat' and consists of 'fighting' against other players with the aim of taking their hat. To play, each person must be wearing a hat to begin (this can be any type of hat). When the music begins, players will try and take the hats off each other without their own being taken. If a player's hat is taken, they are out of the game and must sit to the side. This is a simple but fun game which works in a very similar way to 'Tag'.

- 📍 Print or draw some pictures of Mexican landmarks and use them to create your own Snap or Bingo cards.
- 📍 Play with a piñata - you could buy one or even make your own. The perfect party game!
- 📍 Have a game of 'Jumping Beans' inspired by the Mexican jumping bean.

## What?

Mexican jumping beans contain a tiny caterpillar pupa inside. When the bean gets hot, the caterpillar begins to move around, making the bean jump up and down. To play 'Jumping Beans', music should be played and players must jump around to resemble the beans. When the music stops, all players should stand completely still. If any players are seen to be moving, they are out and the game continues with the remaining players.

- 📍 Play 'Fruit Salad' but swap the fruits for Mexican dishes such as: fajitas, burritos, nachos, tacos and enchiladas. For 'Fruit Salad' shout 'FIESTA'!
- 📍 Charrería is the national sport of Mexico and is the practice of riding horseback whilst traditionally dressed in cowboy attire. It is considered a key part of Mexico's rural history. Have a go at a horse riding class. Who knows, you might be inspired to take part in the sport at a competitive level.
- 📍 Create your own Day of the Dead themed beetle drive.
- 📍 Mexico is renowned for its wide range of celebrations throughout the year, many of which include music and dancing. Enjoy a game of Musical Statues or Musical Bumps with your friends, family or group.



# Other

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- 📍 Mexico was home to famous poet and diplomat Octavio Paz, who was awarded the 1990 Nobel Prize. Write some of your own poems. Who knows, you might be a future Nobel Prize recipient!
- 📍 Read a travel guide or watch a documentary about Mexico.
- 📍 Recreate the Mexican flag using all of the red, white and green objects you can find. Why not make an edible version and count it towards your Food challenge?

Did you know?

The Mexican flag shows an eagle, holding a snake whilst standing on a cactus. Is it said that the Ancient Aztecs saw this as a sign from the gods that this is where they should build the city of Tenochtitlan which we now know as Mexico City.

- 📍 Watch a film set in Mexico such as the 2017 animated film 'Coco' which is based on the Day of the Dead.
- 📍 Create your own timeline of Mexican history.
- 📍 Learn how to say 'hello' and 'good-bye' in Spanish.

Why?

Spanish is the official language of Mexico, with over 90% over Mexicans speaking it as their first language.

- 📍 Keep an eye out for a local Frida Kahlo exhibition in a museum or create your own by printing out pictures of her famous paintings and displaying them on the wall.
- 📍 Take part in a Mexican wave.

Did you know?

The 'Mexican Wave' is in fact not actually Mexican but gained its name because it was first seen at the World Cup in Mexico 1986.

- 📍 The Mexican cactus 'cardon cactus' is the world's largest cactus. They can reach up to 70 ft and live up to 300 years. Find out your own fun cactus facts online or in a book. What other large cactuses exist and where are they in the world?
- 📍 Listen to some traditional Mexican music or nursery rhymes.

## Adventure Complete?

Reward your young adventurers with their Mexico 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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