



Opportunities for learning in the holidays



The school holidays are a time for students to take a break from the more formal learning of the classroom, but this doesn't mean their learning stops! They can continue to learn and grow during their time off and you can use this time as an opportunity to **connect with your child** in shared learning experiences.

Here are some ideas and tips to help your children learn whilst having fun and exploring your local community (or a nearby one) these holidays.

Visit galleries or museums

A trip to an art gallery, museum or science centre is a chance to see new things, widen horizons, develop inquisitiveness and foster storytelling.

Art

During your visit ask:

- What was your favourite art exhibit and why?
- Why do you think the artist created this artwork?
- How does this piece of art make you feel?

Museum

During your visit ask:

- What is the oldest thing on display?
- How would you feel if you discovered a new fossil?
- What was something new you learnt from the museum?

Science

During your visit ask:

- What was something you learnt from the centre?
- How did the shadows change the further you moved away from the light and colour wall?

- How can you make your own science experiment at home?

Go for a walk in nature

Spending time in nature can build a child's confidence. There is less structure than most types of indoor play and they can choose how they interact with the world around them.

- Pick up a leaf, is it symmetrical or asymmetrical?
- Point out things along the walk – a pretty tree, interesting bird. Look to the treetops to see if you can spot a nest. Ask 'Why do you think birds build their nests or live up high in the trees?'

Explore the library

Local council libraries are a great place to visit during the school holidays. Sign up to borrow books or stay to sit and read together. Pick a book and after reading it ask:

- What was the story about?
- What was the message in the story?
- If you could change the ending of the book, what would you make happen?

Enjoy exploring these school holidays and encourage students to share stories with their teachers when they return next term!



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