

West Jesmond Family Dippy School Homework – March Challenge!



“The days
are getting
longer—is
Spring
coming?”

LOOK OUT FOR SIGNS OF SPRING

Go for a walk or a look around your garden, can you find:

Leaf buds on the trees, flowers starting to bloom (the snowdrops have been out for a while but look out for crocuses, daffodils, celandines (like buttercups), tree blossom), insects buzzing around, new lambs in the fields, frogs in ponds and frogspawn and if you're really lucky maybe you'll see a March hare! Take field notebooks with you and do some observational drawings of what you find or try doing some nature photography. You could experiment with taking photographs at interesting angles, very close up etc. There are some great ideas at: <https://expertphotography.com/7-fun-photography-projects-children/>.

Try your hand at Phenology

Phenology is the science of recording seasonal change. Use the Woodland Trust's Nature Calendar to look at the first sightings of animals and plants each year to help track climate change. It is really simple for anyone to get involved and report a plant or animal they spotted in their garden, local park or on the way to school: <https://naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>

Ready, Steady, Grow!

It's the time of year to get planting! It will all help with combatting climate change and improving habitats for pollinators. There is advice at: <https://www.gardeningwithchildren.co.uk/>

You can bring in **maths and measurement** by having a growing competition and recording in a table and doing a graphical drawing. A shortlist of plants that can be grown indoors can be found here, including some vegetables so you can grow your own food to eat later: <https://getbusygardening.com/easiest-seeds-to-start-indoors/>

Spring Cleaning

If you fancy doing something good for your local area, park or beach, you could consider a spring clean: <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean>

<https://www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch/events/gbbc>

If you want to **TASTE spring**, maybe you could try tasting some seasonal wild garlic leaves (ransoms), eat some early rhubarb, or try spring greens or blood oranges.

As a family go out and investigate one, some or all of these things. It's up to you how you want to record this: pictures, photos, send comments to our Facebook and Twitter threads or come in to talk about it in class.

Please complete by Mon 25th March and be prepared to share what you have done in class.