

7 top tips to help your child with primary science

Here are some fun and interesting things you can do together at home over the summer – and they will improve your child's understanding and appreciation of science!

1

Keep it real. Find learning in everyday activities and build on your child's interests. Everyday and real world contexts help to make science more recognisable and accessible. Building a den, creating from Lego, and preparing simple food all link to the curriculum and provide great opportunities to develop an understanding of the world around them. Our [educational family activities collection](#) are a great place to start, not least 'Starters for STEM'.

2

Be inspired. Explore the range of exciting science-related careers and the skills involved. Finding out about [real-life role models](#) is a great way to bring science to life, link learning to real world applications, and encourage young people to think about their future. Watch a wildlife documentary together and talk about the people and jobs involved. [You can research different STEM careers available](#) - explore what it takes to be an astronaut.

3

Go exploring. Discover the wealth of science in nature. You can discover a lot of science in the world around you. A simple walk to the park, a trip to some woods or the coast or even exploring weather patterns will open up possibilities to explore the natural world and nature and showcase the science involved. Maybe find out about [extreme elements](#) or [animal adaptations](#).

4

Get creative. Make science models out of things you find around the home or outdoors. Make a skeleton using cocktail sticks or bone shaped dog biscuits, or use materials you find outside to represent the different parts of the digestive system, mouth, oesophagus, stomach etc. Use different sized fruit to make a model solar system or design a holiday space suit for people visiting the moon. [Get some more ideas from our collection](#).

5

Challenge yourself. Self-regulation in children is key to achieving academic goals. This includes developing skills such as goal-setting, planning, perseverance, and the management of time, materials and emotions. STEM challenges and competitions are great for this. Create a science-themed family challenge (bake-off, daily steps, sunflower growing), explore [movies and magic](#), or look out for local, national or international competitions.

6

Grow together. Learn with others through local [STEM Clubs](#) and family activities. Look out for holiday-time STEM opportunities offered by your child's school, library or other local groups. Parental encouragement and interest in science learning helps demonstrate its value to young people. Clubs and events are great for learning with others, whilst building your own knowledge and confidence. Check out our [National STEM Club](#) too.

7

Build it in. Develop English and maths skills using science contexts. [Explore the science in the stories you read](#) - which building materials are the best for a house for the Three Little Pigs? Record daily temperatures throughout the summer and look for patterns. Measure baking ingredients and explore how the oven changes them. Talk about animals, birds, flowers and trees you see when on a walk. Take a look at [Explorify](#) for more ideas.