


# More online resources for Children's Book Week (4<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> May) and beyond!

## READING & DISCOVERY

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-6-9-week-4.html>

Similar to 'Newsround', this online magazine has daily articles that are relevant to children and young adults (see below).




### Day 9

See how a family styled their house to look like a famous painting in "Brush With the Law."

Plus:


- [Journey](#) to the rainforests of Borneo to meet the team that saved a baby orangutan's life.
- [Meet](#) a teen piano player who beat the odds.
- [See](#) how characters come to life.



#### How to Save a Baby Orangutan

The race to save a dying orangutan


[Read the Article](#)



#### The Amazing Music of Darrius Simmons

Get inspired by this amazing teen

[Read the Article](#)



#### Creating Coco

How do animators use 3-D shapes?

[Read the Article](#)

<https://www.howstuffworks.com/> and <https://ed.ted.com/> will have all of your questions answered!

<https://www.dkfindout.com/us/> An encyclopaedic site with plenty of information, videos and quizzes about different curriculum topics.

<https://bushelandpeckbooks.com/pages/a-care-package-from-bushel-peck-books>

Complete books including *50 Real Heroes for Boys* and *The True West...* "Real stories about black cowboys, women sharpshooters, native American rodeo stars and the unsung explorers, builders and heroes who shaped the American West" (see below). Also look out for *The Wizard's Workbook...* essential for Harry Potter fans!

## 17 CALAMITY JANE

REAL MARTHA JANE  
NAME: CANARY



There's no question that nicknames in the Wild West were flat-out cool. From Wild Bill Hickok and Billy the Kid to Deadwood Dick and Bronco Sam. Maybe the greatest nickname, though, was given to Martha Jane Canary: Calamity Jane. There are many different explanations of how she got it. Some say it was from a wounded soldier after she saved his life during an Indian attack. Other people think it was because she was fiercely independent and told anyone who crossed her that they were "courting calamity." Whatever the explanation, Jane really was wild and free, she told everybody exactly what was on her mind and did whatever she wanted. She dressed like a man and could shoot like one, too. Indeed, when she came into the town of Deadwood with Wild Bill Hickok's wagon train, she was so famous that it was her arrival which was announced in the local newspaper with the headline: "Calamity Jane Has Arrived!"

No question, Jane had guts. Once, when the driver of a stagecoach was shot with an arrow, Jane took the reins from his dying hands and drove the coach to safety, saving the lives of the other six passengers (all men, by the way). Another time, she swam the Platte River and rode her horse ninety miles at top speed, while cold and wet, to deliver important messages for the Army.

Jane was just as generous as she was bold. Though she was only fourteen when her parents died, Jane raised her brothers and sisters all by herself. Later, as a grown woman, she nursed the victims of a deadly smallpox epidemic back to health, even at the risk of losing her own life.

After a life of excitement and adventure, Calamity Jane was featured in Buffalo Bills' Wild West show as a rider, sharpshooter, and storyteller who told the unforgettable tales of her incredible life. And, thanks to her big personality and warm-hearted spirit, the legend of Calamity Jane has lived on in books, television shows, cartoons, songs, and over ten movies.

**"THE WORD CALAMITY MEANS DEASTER. 'CALAMITY CALAMITY' MEANS LOSING PONY TRUCKS. 'REFFALO BIL' GOVS. ANOTHER GOOD BURE NAME. DUNES YOU WERE A SUFFALO"**



**DID YOU KNOW?**

After her death, Calamity Jane was buried next to the famous Wild Bill Hickok (she peeped). Some say she was very annoyed, but the evidence is unclear.

Sleeping in a stagecoach was very uncomfortable, but it was often the only way to travel in the West before the railroads.



<b>QUICK FACTS</b>	<b>BORN</b> 1832	<b>DIED</b> 1903	<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b> PROVINCIAL MOUNTAIN PRISONERS; CALAMITY CALAMITY	<b>STATS</b> RECORDED: WERE CALAMITY JANE SWAM THE PLATTE RIVER & RODE 90 MILES TO DELIVER MESSAGES FOR THE ARMY? MENTIONED IN THE JOURNAL OF GREENE 'REAL FUNDRAISE'
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<https://www.quirkbooks.com/post/activity-kits-kids-and-teens#Grades%20%E2%80%93>

Why not read about Jeff Kinney, creator of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, in the book of *Kid Legends* (see below).

At school, Jeff started to draw his own cartoons in a sketchpad. He took an art class and learned to draw the people and things he saw around him. Before long, drawing was all Jeff wanted to do. When the other kids were outside playing sports or swimming, Jeff would hide out in the school bathroom so the coach couldn't find him. If it got cold, he would wrap himself in toilet paper to keep warm.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/5YSXDq3CTpTmfkrwSrijYVzS/9-family-friendly-podcasts-to-enjoy-this-bank-holiday-weekend> Family-friendly podcasts: wacky stories and discoveries presented by people you may have seen on the TV!

<https://www.toon-books.com/> Comics, *Easy As ABC* teaches you how to style everything from basic faces and expressions, to bubbles and lettering, to developing your first cartoon strip. There are also FREE COMICS WITH AUDIO in languages including Spanish (see below), and an ONLINE COMIC CREATOR developed by the creator of Garfield the Cat!





## PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES

<https://hourofcode.com/us/learn>

Get a free one-hour tutorial and code something fun! (See below.)

All grades Pre-reader Grades 2-5 **Grades 6-8** Grades 9+

Sort by  
Most popular


Created by  
All

Classroom technology  
 Computers  
 Android  
 iPad/iPhone  
 Poor or no internet  
 No computers or devices

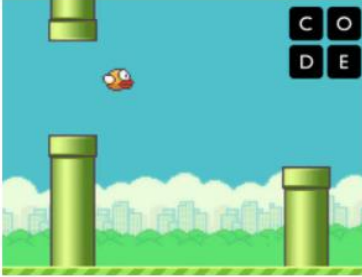
Topics  
 Science  
 Math  
 Social Studies  
 Language Arts  
 Art, Media, Music  
 Computer Science only

Activity type  
 Self-led tutorial  
 Lesson plan


Length  
 One hour  
 One hour with follow-on  
 A few hours




**Minecraft Hour of Code**  
Grades 2+ | Blocks




**Make a Flappy game**  
Grades 2+ | Blocks




**Create your own Google logo**  
Grades 2+ | Blocks, Scratch



**Star Wars: Building a Galaxy with Code**  
Grades 2+ | Blocks, JavaScript



CS First



The Amazing World of Gumball

<https://www.ampkids.com/resources/>

Printable 'Teaching Guides' that use Minecraft, Snoopy and more to explore Writing and STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths).

<https://www.intofilm.org/news-and-views/articles/activities-for-young-people-to-do-at-home>

Ever dreamed of working in the film industry? Take a quiz to find your career, pen a film review, design a costume, throw a film party, create an impactful poster, or dream up your director's mood board. A fun way to stay learning during lockdown!

<https://nomadpress.net/the-learning-center/printable/>

139 free projects such as "A-maze-ing Tunnels," "Write a Letter in Greek," "Can you spot Mercury?" "Lean-to Shelter," "Loom and Cloth" and "Build A Mini-Yurt."

<https://nomadpress.net/the-learning-center/resource-library/>

Use your email to access free eBooks like *Activities for Earth Day*, *Summer Survival Guide: How to Keep Kids Learning with 12 Projects!* and *Team-Building Activities for Kids*.

<https://www.dk.com/us/information/home-learning-for-kids/>

Activities for ages 5–12 include crafts, yoga, puzzles and things to do outdoors (see “Be A Soil Scientist” below).

<https://www.workman.com/company/resources-for-remote-learning#elementary>

Check out the experiments in *Totally Irresponsible Science* or choose a “Perilous Math” activity on pi (see further below).

## BE A SOIL SCIENTIST

### Microbe meal

You will need: a trowel, card, a shovel, a pen, tape, a stick, and an old 100% cotton sock.

Healthy soils are home to organisms, from earthworms to tiny microbes. If you've got a garden, bury a cotton sock to find out if the soil is full of hungry things. Make sure the sock is 100% cotton!

- Dig a 10-cm (4-in) pit and put the sock in there.
- Use a trowel to fill the pit with some of the soil.
- Put the sock in the pit and cover it with the rest of the soil from the paper.
- Tape card to a stick to make a marker. Mark the spot.
- Dig the sock up after eight weeks. If it's been eaten, with plenty of holes, the soil is healthy because it has lots of organisms!

### Health and safety

If you have a cut or graze, cover it with a plaster before touching soil. After you've touched soil, wash your hands!

### Worm hotel

You will need: a 2-litre disposable plastic bottle, scissors, garden compost, soil, sand, a pencil, a spray bottle, cardboard, leaves, and tape.

Earthworms spend their lives hidden from view. Build them a worm hotel to discover what they do in the soil, before returning them to the soil to carry on the good work.

- Ask an adult to help you cut the bottle in half, being careful with the scissors. Add a 10-cm (4-in) layer of soil. Spray it with water.
- Spraying water after each layer, add 0.5 cm (0.2 in) of sand, 0.5 cm (0.2 in) of compost, and 5 cm (2 in) of soil. Poke five (5-cm) holes in the hotel with a pencil.
- Dig in your garden or a park to find five worms. Put them in the hotel. They'll burrow down, using the holes. Add leaves or food.
- Water like the drink! Keep cardboard around the wormery to block out light. Spray the hotel with water daily.
- After a week, see how the worms have changed the soil. There will be lots of burrows; the layers will have begun to disappear, and the leaves may have been dragged into the soil.
- Release the worms back into their original home after your week's experiment.

### Hint and tips

- Don't use worms from a compost heap. These don't live in soil.
- Keep them in dark, cool, and damp conditions. Carry them to and from the wormery in a tub lined with damp kitchen towel.

### Perfectly Wonky carrots

You will need: a patch of soil for growing, a trowel, a watering can, a rake, carrot seeds, newspaper, plant labels, and a shop-bought carrot.

Stones and twigs are often removed from the soil before carrots are grown. This is so they grow straight down without objects blocking their way. See what happens otherwise...

- Carrot seeds should be sown from April until July. Rake the soil to loosen it, and dig a 1-cm (0.5-in) deep row.
- Sprinkle the carrot seeds along the row, about 10 for every 2.5 cm (1 inch) of length. Cover with soil.
- If there's no rain in the first few days, water the row and cover it with damp newspaper for a week or so.
- Water the carrots often but gently, at ground level.
- When the plants are around 10 cm (4 in) tall, thin them to one plant every 6 cm (2 in) by pulling out the smaller ones.
- After 16–20 weeks your carrots should be fully grown! Gently pull them out of the ground.
- Compare the carrots to a shop-bought one to see the difference!

### Label the carrot!

Label the carrot with the date, your initials, and the plant name.

Try these soil experiments to discover more about what happens underneath our feet every day.

Suitable for 5–9 years

Content from: *RHS Under Your Feet*  
Available now

# ACTIVITY SHEET

Here is a list of terrific group activities that encourage kids ages 10 and older to use their brains—and fill their stomachs—while having fun with the infinite digits of Pi.

**FIRST** visit a website such as PiDay.org or refer to the Wikipedia entry for “pi” for help in generating some of pi’s infinite digits.

**SECOND** encourage invitees to bring along pie to eat, sweet kinds as well as savory (pizza!).

**LAST** have a ton of fun: 3.14 tons!

### ACTIVITIES

- Using the first 25 or so digits in pi, have the group create a short story using words with the same number of letters as each digit of pi: A three-letter word, followed by a one-letter word, then a four-letter word, a one-letter word, and so on.
- Assign each digit between one and nine an individual color of construction paper, and create a paper chain link for each digit of pi. According to the digits in pi, piece all the links together to form as long a chain as you can.
- Ask children to bring in circular objects from home and have them measure the circumference, the diameter, and the radius of each.
- Have circle-drawing contests, blindfolding the children or asking them to draw a circle with their non-writing hand.
- Hold a competition to see which child can memorize the most digits of pi.
- Ask children (or their parents) to prepare pies,

### RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

- GREAT IMAGINATION!
- CONSTRUCTION PAPER
- GLUE STICKS OR SCOTCH TAPE
- A LARGE DRY-ERASE BOARD OR EASEL PAD
- MARKERS AND CRAYONS
- PLENTY OF PIE! (THE EDIBLE KIND)

### CHEAT SHEET

- The distance all around a circle is called the **circumference** and is referred to in formulas as *c*.
- The distance from one side of the circle to the other is referred to as the **diameter** of a circle and is identified as