

Families[®]

Pennines



FREE
TAKE ME HOME

IN THIS ISSUE

What's On

over MARCH
and APRIL

Plus

News, Education
and Classes

EASTER

crafts, recipes and
alternative gift ideas

PND

and anxiety
in new parents

Living with a child
with special needs



Get your **Big Moment!**

All Stars Cricket was launched in March 2017. The programme has had an incredible first year with over 1,500 All Stars Cricket centres delivering the programme to over 37,000 kids. In addition, the end of year parent survey yielded very positive results with key headlines of 70% of families new to their local cricket club, 85% of parents want their child to return in 2018 and bring a friend!

All Stars Cricket provides boys and girls from 5 to 8 years old with an opportunity to become a star. The national curriculum of fun, cricket activities and games provides children with the basic movement skills to begin a lifelong love of physical activity.

The programme is a paid for product that has a RRP of £40, although this can vary across the Country. The cost includes the 8 week All Stars Cricket programme (1 x hour session per week for 8 weeks) and the pack; including a bat, ball, rucksack, cap and t shirt (personalised with their name) – all delivered to your door. The pack also includes an Activity book that allows children and parents to engage with the programme using several weekly challenges to earn 'star awards' like bowling, catching, running, and teamwork.

The programme is delivered by trained volunteers who deliver game based activities that teaches basic cricket skills like catching, throwing, hitting a moving ball and social skills like team work and communication. Held at accredited cricket clubs these courses are a perfect way for children to learn about cricket and make friends in safe, and most importantly, fun environment.

The Centres will be encouraged to deliver their programmes from 11 May through to July but some Centres may start slightly later than the 11 May.

Reasons to join:

- For all boys and girls aged five to eight
- Delivered nationwide at over 1,800 centres
- Eight one-hour sessions, held over eight weeks
- Emphasis on fun and being active
- Focus on developing your child's movement skills
- Great first introduction to cricket
- Safe and fully accredited
- Valuable time with your kids – mums and dads are encouraged to take part too
- Easy online registration

For more information, to find local classes in the region, or to register for a summer of #BigMoments please visit allstarscricket.co.uk

ALL STARS
cricket

The summer of Big Moments

All Stars Cricket gives **girls and boys aged 5 to 8** the chance to **play, learn great skills and meet new friends!**

Eight week course starting from May 2018

Includes Personalised Kit!

Find your nearest All Stars Cricket centre and **Register at allstarscricket.co.uk**



Spring is in the air!

The warmer months have been a long time coming. I'm certainly ready for Spring and Summer, are you?

This issue is all about Easter, where to find the Easter Bunny, egg trails and baby animals, plus alternative gift ideas, recipes and crafts. Our what's on pages also have some great family events taking place during the two-week break.

Don't miss out on some explosive events across the region that are celebrating British Science Week in March! We also have a science experiment you can do with the kids at home, thanks to Eureka! The National Children's Museum.

To mark Autism Awareness Week, we have a focus on Autism and Special Educational Needs, you'll also find more information on Post Natal Depression in new parents and everything you need to know about the 11+ entrance exam.

If you fancy a career change this year, don't miss out on the opportunity to run your very own magazine. For more information about owning Families Pennines, drop me a line at editor@familiespennines.co.uk.

Enjoy your Spring!

Emily Emily Raleigh Editor, Families Pennines

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FAMILIES PENNINES

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CIRCULATION 20,000 DEADLINE Early April 2018

FRONT COVER pixelheadphoto/Depositphotos.com

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Inspire Achieve Succeed

11+ Study write

Pre-Tests 2018

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Verbal Reasoning Mathematics English Logical Problem Solving





73 Questions a Day!

British children aged 1 to 6 ask an average 73 questions every day... half of which parents struggle to answer, according to a recent study conducted by One Poll.

Children are at their most inquisitive at 4 years old and boys and girls tend to be just as curious as each other.

Almost a third of parents in the study find this constant barrage of questions exhausting, lasting as it often does from the time children wake until they drop off to sleep at night. Almost half of the parents interviewed admit that they struggle to find an answer 50% of the time, turning to Google for help, whilst nearly one third confessed to making up answers on the spot.

Fathers field the most questions but mothers still deal with an average of 413 per week.

To help parents deal with some of their children's more challenging questions, Tots Town at Argos has teamed up with child psychologist Dr. Sam Wass and created a series of videos which can be found on YouTube.

WOMEN MORE STRESSED-OUT THAN MEN – IT'S OFFICIAL!

Women in the UK suffer from more work-related stress than men because of office sexism, extra responsibilities at home and unequal pay, according to official figures from the UK's Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

The official figures show that women aged 25-54 feel more work-related stress than men, but it's those aged women aged 35-44 who are often juggling work with parenting and childcare that feel it the most.

On top of this are new findings published which reveal many more women than men are feeling generalised stress and anxiety. The research reveals that insomnia, unhealthy eating, tense relationships and missed nights-out are commonplace for many more women than men.

This research also found that being a parent with kids aged under 18 is linked to higher levels of stress than being a parent with adult children.

For more information visit www.hse.gov.uk or www.chrysaliscourses.co.uk



Kzenon/Depositphotos.com

Register now for Wear A Hat Day!

Calling all schools, parents and teachers! Please get involved in Wear A Hat Day 2018.



Taking place on 29 March, this is the UK's premier brain tumour research fundraising event. Don't worry if you can't make it that day, just choose another. Join in the fun as schools and families across the UK get involved to help raise funds for research into brain tumours.

"Wear A Hat Day is a perfect opportunity to bring the whole school together and support this game-changing charity." – Mr Dan Gross, Deputy Head Curriculum, Beachborough School.

It's very easy to register online at www.wearahatday.org (it works really well on mobiles!) and then we can send out your fundraising pack.

In the meantime, browse the other Wear A Hat Day pages for ideas and inspiration to make your event a hattastic fundraising success!

In 2017, families and schools came together alongside other organisations and communities across the UK and helped raise over £300,000 to fund our vital research.

With your help we can double this in 2018. We're aiming for £600,000, enough to keep a group of researchers funded for a year.

So please register for Wear A Hat Day 2018 today.

Thank you. Together we will find a cure.

www.wearahatday.org



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The RSPB is a registered charity in England & Wales 207076, in Scotland SC037654. Girl by David Tipling (rspb-images.com), ladybird and tree rings (istock.com) 81 0-0960-16-17

Eureka! celebrates highest visitor numbers in 20 years

Eureka! The National Children's Museum is celebrating its busiest year in two decades, having welcomed 303,545 people through its doors in 2017 – the museum's 25th anniversary year.

It was the highest number of visitors since 1998 and the numbers were buoyed by the opening of the Spark Gallery, launched in July, which featured the European premiere of futuristic technology-led exhibition digiPlaySpace.

Eureka! Chief Executive Leigh-Anne Stradeski said:

"There is no better end to the celebrations for our 25th anniversary year than knowing the last 12 months saw so many people flock to Eureka! to enjoy everything we have on offer. The huge increase in numbers was very much down to lots of new first-time visitors from across the UK coming to see digiPlaySpace, which is so pleasing as it was a very different exhibit for us.

"We can't wait to make 2018 another year to remember. We'll be revealing more details soon, but I can say we have a digital art exhibition coming to Eureka! this summer that we know everyone will love."

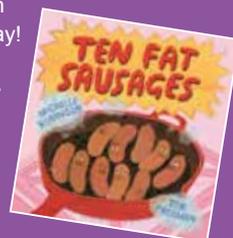


Books with a food theme By Justine Crow

0-2 YEARS

Ten Fat Sausages By Michelle Robinson & Tor Freeman (Andersen RRP £11.99)

Poor old sausages – they do their best to make life easier for kids learning to count and what do they get to be in return? Somebody's tea, that's what. Well, not today! Today they get to escape the humdrum pan they are sizzling in and have an adventure. Sausage by sausage. An ingenious idea with plenty of sauce.



3-5 YEARS

Tacos By Lotte Nieminen (Phaidon RPP £9.99)

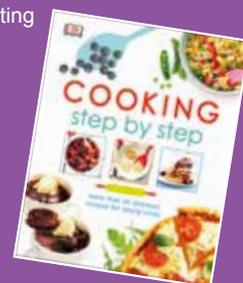
This is a great cooking primer that requires no flames. Follow the recipe, pop out the kitchen utensils and ingredients, get mashing and chopping, add the toppings et voila! I love the fact that the book is billed as 'interactive.' We are so accustomed to that term being technological it comes as a bit of a shock to discover this means with tabs and flaps. Mind you, surely all books are interactive by their very nature.



6-8 YEARS

Cooking Step-by-Step (Dorling Kindersley RRP £13.99)

I believe a good children's cookbook leaves a lasting legacy. Certainly in our household we return to the same old tome again and again for the most beloved and useful recipes. This has more than 50 different dishes for young cooks, from the traditional such as roast chicken and quiche to new modern classics like gazpacho, hummous and guacamole, all illustrated in the DK house-style that is almost good enough to eat.



9-12 YEARS

My Sweet Orange Tree

By Jose Mauro de Vasconcelos (Pushkin RRP £10.99)

Never out of print in its home country since being published in the 1960s, we Brits finally get to sample the delights of this Brazilian classic. Zezé wants to be a "poet with a bow-tie" when he grows up – a laudable ambition if you ask me – but until then he passes the time in a down-at-heel district of Rio having fun with his imaginary friends. And then one day a real one shows up....



Justine Crow is co-founder of the famous South London bookshop 'Bookseller Crow on the Hill' based in Crystal Palace. As well as being a blogger and reviewer, parent of three and qualified swimming teacher, she also co-authored *The Little Book of Nits* published by Bloomsbury.



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For more information, contact Emily Raleigh on 07974 401663 or drop her a line at editor@familiespennines.co.uk

Post-Natal Depression and Anxiety in New Parents

It can come as a surprise to some people that post-natal depression, anxiety and experiencing negative feelings are extremely common after birth, with 80% of women reporting some kind of mood disturbance at this time.

Childbirth is undoubtedly a major event in a woman's life. The failure to properly appreciate and understand the extent of the significant physiological, emotional and biochemical changes that occur after giving birth contributes to some women developing a more significant depressive disorder which is then likely to need professional treatment.

The common expectation that pregnancy and childbirth is a happy and joyous time can make it very distressing for women to seek help with symptoms of depression. Mothers who have a low mood and experience negative thoughts can struggle to bond with their baby and this is something that is very hard to admit to, whether to a friend, family member or a medical professional.

Step by step, life can change, and you can become the "good enough" parent you want to be for your baby.

A recent survey by the British Journal of General Practice revealed that women felt under pressure to be 'good mothers' and the feeling they had 'failed' impacted negatively on their mental health and on their likelihood to seek help.

New parents need their sleep just as much as anyone, to maintain good mental health. However, if you are clinically depressed and your baby is waking up constantly throughout the night then this can have even more of a negative effect on your mood.

Some women may also be predisposed to suffering post-natal depression. They may have a family history of the condition – their mother may have experienced similar symptoms or there may be a history of mental illness within other family members. A woman who has previously experienced depressive symptoms will also have a higher risk of post-natal depression.

Women with particular personalities are also more susceptible. For example 'perfectionists' who prefer a high degree of order and organisation in their lives and will feel everything is 'turned upside down' when they have a baby. Babies, especially newborns, cannot be controlled, and this can trigger some women to feeling extremely unsettled and 'out of control.'

As a society, we need to educate and inform each other about the stresses of parenthood and make sure there is enough support available. Women should speak to their health visitor about any issues with breastfeeding, sleeping and routines, and this is also something the fathers can get involved in.

In my opinion, new fathers don't suffer from post-natal depression in the same way as a mother does. This is due to the immense biological and hormonal changes in the female body, which the man does not experience. Having a baby creates major changes within the family, and for some fathers this can lead to feelings of low mood. In this day and age, fathers are expected to play more of a role in child rearing and this can sometimes be difficult for a man who doesn't have experience or knowledge of what this may require as he is unlikely to have been exposed to such fathering himself.

Research conducted by the Priory Group¹ found that one in 10 men said they have had negative thoughts after having children, and more

than one in three (39%) experienced anxieties. The research also showed that two in five men (42%) who experienced depression or anxieties did not seek help because they were too embarrassed and 'thought they should be happy' after having a baby.

I highly recommend that new fathers take up their paternity leave allowance as this will give them the opportunity to bond with their new baby. I see fathers in my clinic who are the main caregiver parent and their wives have returned to work, and I encourage them to become fully involved in mother and baby groups (to that end, I feel they should really be called parent and baby groups).

Female or male, every person will have different triggers for post-natal depression and a psychiatrist will consider all the factors which have contributed to the development of symptoms. This can include their family upbringing, previous history of mental illness and their personality. Every person must be evaluated individually and a thorough psychiatric history taken before advice on the optimum course of treatment can be given.

Anyone who has symptoms of depression should seek help as soon as they can. If left untreated, symptoms can get worse and can have a serious impact on the infant's well-being, behaviour and development.

There are many strategies available to help parents deal with depressive disorder that develops postnatally and to help them become accustomed to the huge change that has taken place in their lives.

Step by step, life can change, and you can become the "good enough" parent you want to be for your baby.

Dr Natasha Bijlani is Consultant Psychiatrist at The Priory Hospital in Roehampton, London, the UK's leading centre for the treatment of mental health issues. For more information, visit www.priorygroup.com

1. Fieldwork period: 11th-14th September 2017, among 1,002 parents of under -18s, of whom 452 were men



All you need to know about the 11+



Study Write 11+'s Vicky Queenan has over 20 years' teaching experience under her belt and more recently has been helping hundreds of students prepare for their 11+ exams. Here she explains in more detail what the 11+ is.

What is the 11+ entrance exam?

In a nutshell, it's a rigorous exam that if passed, allows a child to attend a grammar school. Most grammar schools across the region and in the UK require it for a child to secure a place.



For example, there are 360 places available in Calderdale, that's just 180 for each of the grammar schools. Every year over 1,200 children sit the exam and therefore makes this a very competitive process.

The 11+ exam has been around in the region for the last 50 years. The exam usually takes place on 1 October (or the closest Saturday to this date) for children that are in Year 6. The closing deadline is usually the 1 September and the responsibility falls on the parent not the school or tutor to register the child.

Parents are told two weeks before the exam which school their child will sit the exam at and the results are then sent within a two-week period.

These days, support is available through private tuition companies, such as Study Write 11+, that work closely with students wanting to take the 11+ to help increase their chances of passing.

What does the 11+ entrance exam involve?

The exam is split into three parts, English, Verbal Reasoning and Maths.

There are two sections of the English paper, which constitutes to 35% of the overall examination:

- Section A includes comprehension questions including fact retrieval, inference, language analysis and structural elements and is worth 20 marks. It is a 30-minute timed paper;
- Section B includes creative writing using an element of a story, descriptive piece or any non-fiction writing and is worth 20 marks. It is a 30-minute timed paper.

Verbal Reasoning is found within English and Maths, however there are more problem solving and logical sequences involved. The paper is made up of 50 questions and tested in a 30-minute timed paper. This paper forms 30% of the overall examination.

The Maths paper tests the children and asks questions from all the topics covered in Years 5 and 6 and lower KS3 curriculum. The paper is made up of 40 questions and tested in a 30-minute paper and represents 35% of the overall examination.

The scores from the three papers provide a score from 100%. An age weighting is also used by the admissions team and a small percentage of marks is added depending on the month you were born, for example, September receives 0, whereas August will receive an additional small amount (although nominal and not to be relied upon).

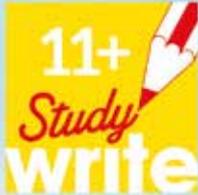
Who can apply for the 11+ exam?

Anyone can apply for the 11+ exam, but in order to increase a child's chance of passing, it is worth taking on extra tuition. Verbal Reasoning is not taught in schools and neither are the language and structural elements of the English syllabus – these are KS3 topics. Within the Maths paper there are also Year 7 and Year 8 questions, therefore a child needs to be taught at a higher level than primary school. Learning about these skills coupled with exam techniques taught in the right environment can be the difference between a pass or a fail.

You may not be putting your child forward for the 11+, but you may find that investing in extra tuition sessions if your child is at the expected or exceeding level at school, will give them a better understanding of Maths and English.

For more information about the Year 4 and Year 5 11+ preparation courses from Study Write 11+, contact Vicky Queenan on 07990 775779, learn@studywrite.co.uk or go to www.studywrite11plus.co.uk for an informal chat.

Inspire Achieve Succeed



11+ Easter School Revision Classes

Crossley Heath Sports & Conference Centre, Spring Edge HX3 OHG

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9.30am – 12.30pm daily
£35 daily or £100 for the whole course

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www.studywrite11plus.co.uk

Verbal Reasoning Mathematics English Logical Problem Solving

FIVE EARLY SIGNS OF AUTISM

Early diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder can mean parents don't have to wait for their child to start school to implement intervention programmes.

Early autism intervention programmes can address the primary behavioural symptoms of autism in children from as young as 18 months of age and can have long term positive effects.

Many children with autism appear to be developing typically until they start pre-school or kindergarten, when language and social delays stand out in contrast to the development of their peers.

These five signs of autism can be observed in children as young as 12 to 24 months of age.

■ Your child does not look when you point at something.

A child with autism may not look when you point at an object across the room and may not follow your gaze when you look at something.

■ Your child does not point with one finger to request items or get help.

A child with autism may not use gestures like pointing with one finger to ask for things or to direct your attention.

■ Your child does not respond to his or her name.

Children with autism may not understand the response you expect when you say their name, or they may not be motivated to respond in the same way as a typically developing child.

■ Your child avoids looking you in the eye.

A child with autism may find eye contact challenging or painful and may avoid looking you in the eye when you are talking to, playing with, or dressing him or her.

■ Your child ignores you or does not seem to understand directions.

A child with autism may have trouble understanding spoken language.

If you have concerns about your child, contact your GP or healthcare provider today.



For more information on early intervention visit www.autism.org.uk or www.gemini.org, which is a web based learning programme offering online video modeling to parents without a formal diagnosis or access to regular services.



DID YOUR CHILD SECURE THEIR SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE?

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Rishworth School Open Evening
5th March 6pm - 8:15pm

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E: admissions@rishworth-school.co.uk
W: www.rishworth-school.co.uk





Life with a Child with Special Educational Needs

Parents are often faced with additional challenges when they have a child with special needs. Claire Winter talks to a parent about life with a child who has SEN.

Caroline is mum to seven-year-old Alfie, who has autism. She says life with autism is like being on a constant rollercoaster, as no two days are the same.

“Some days we’re on a level, and then the following day we might be hurtling down an enormous drop! Alfie is autistic, which as a spectrum disorder, affects people in completely different ways. Alfie’s main challenges include social and communication issues, anxiety, dyspraxia (problems with coordination and motor-functions), sensory issues, emotional under-development and short-term memory problems. This means that even basic things, like asking him to put his shoes on or find his water bottle can be fraught with difficulties. Frankly, it’s exhausting at times! Some days are better than others. My measure is if we manage to get through the day without any major tantrums or without him hitting out at anyone, and he goes to sleep feeling loved and protected, then we’ve had a good day.”

The nature of the condition being a spectrum disorder means that everyone experiences it differently.

Caroline’s son is in a mainstream school, and she says that getting education and support for your child at school is a huge sticking point for many SEN parents.

“The problem with the current mainstream school system is that it is a ‘one size fits all’ approach, but schooling a child with SEN is like trying to stick a square peg into a round hole. In our experience, because Alfie keeps up academically with his peers and appears to ‘cope’ in school, he only gets a basic level of support with things like social skills and confidence building. I think Alfie could thrive at school if he had access to further support and if the school could fund a helper to sit with him. He is a bright and intelligent boy, but because they don’t address his specific needs, he will only perform at a mediocre level. Because Alfie just gets on with it out of sheer determination and a huge amount of self-control, he continually slips through the net. He is exhausted when he comes home from school from trying to ‘fit in,’ and that is when he is most likely to meltdown. But unfortunately, the school doesn’t get to see this behaviour. This is a major issue for many SEN parents, and a lot of us feel very let down by the system.”

Caroline says Autism is often referred to as a ‘hidden disability,’ but it does depend on the child and their specific needs.

“The nature of the condition being a spectrum disorder means that everyone experiences it differently. People often don’t realise Alfie has a condition, and then if we explain, we get comments like “well, he doesn’t look autistic.” For some reason, people feel qualified to comment on your child’s condition after only meeting them for five minutes! I have to continually explain to people that because he is classed as ‘high-functioning,’ i.e. he keeps up with his peers academically and has average verbal skills, it doesn’t mean that his life is any easier. In fact, in some ways it’s harder, because society expects him to be a certain way because he doesn’t have the indicators of what people perceive to be ‘disabled,’ such as a wheelchair or a full-time carer. I am always happy to talk about Alfie and his condition as part of a positive conversation around disability.”

What should you do if you suspect your child may have SEN or additional needs?

Caroline says if your child is school age, your first port of call should always be their school, particularly if they haven’t flagged anything up to you already. If your child is younger talk to your health visitor or doctor.

“Be able to give clear examples of how the issue is affecting your child and their ability to learn or function in a classroom setting, and how it may be affecting them at home. Keep notes if necessary. Issues at school can often manifest themselves at home through bad behaviour, withdrawing, general grumpiness, and not wanting to talk about school. Obviously, it depends on the challenges involved and the individual child, but if you suspect the issue is related to mental health, then they ought to be seen by a GP who can refer them on to the relevant services, although access to this varies depending on area and hospital trust.

“Last of all – don’t give up! If we all keep shouting about it, eventually we will get heard!”

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BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK (9-18 MARCH)

SCIENCE-TASTIC!

Thanks to Chris Snowden, STEM & Public Engagement Manager at Eureka! The National Children's Museum, for this great science experiment you can do at home with your budding scientists to tie in with British Science Week.

DO TRY THIS AT HOME: DENSITY

A simple way to demonstrate density, and the properties of different liquids to your children at home – using the kind of liquids that many households will already have in your kitchen cupboards!

If you have the same amount, or volume, of two liquids – for example 100ml of honey and 100ml of water, the honey is more dense, and therefore weighs more. Using this principle, and a few other common household liquids, you can try something really cool.



You'll need: honey, washing up liquid, water (try putting food colouring in to make it really stand out), vegetable oil, a glass to pour them all in, and an adult to help you!

Step 1 Honey! Squeeze some honey into the bottom of your glass, making sure it doesn't drip onto the sides of the glass!



Step 2 Washing up liquid. Squirt this on top of the honey – again without touching the sides of the glass. See how it settles on top of the honey? That's because it is more dense! If it mixes up a bit, just leave it to settle for a few minutes before...



Step 3 Water. We're going to add this a little differently this time though – instead of carefully avoiding touching the sides of the glass, with the water it works best if you pour it carefully down the side of the glass. Again leave it to settle until you have clear layers if you need to.



Step 4 Vegetable oil. Trickle it down the side of the glass – just like you did with the water. Again, leave to settle if needed. And here you are – you're very own density column. Cool huh?

Why not experiment further with some other liquids you have in your kitchen cupboards?

You could even play a game of higher or lower! Or if you want to look at the density of solid objects, add things like a cherry tomato, a bolt or a ping pong ball and see what happens.

Check out these science-themed events taking place during British Science Week:

9-18 March
BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

Eureka! The National Children's Museum, Discovery Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 2NE, 01422 330069
eureka.org.uk
Celebrate all things science at Eureka!

10 & 11 March
BRITISH SCIENCE WEEKEND

Lotherton Hall, Off Collier Lane, Aberford, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS25 3EB, 0113 378 2959

leeds.gov.uk/lotherton

Learn more about the penguins in the Coastal Zone on Saturday with crafts in the Nestbox Education Centre and talks by the penguin keepers. Explore the history of electricity at Lotherton on Sunday and have a go at making your own circuits.

10 & 11 March
SCIENCE SHOW – BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK @ PIT

National Coal Mining Museum for England, Caphouse Colliery, New Road, Overton, Wakefield, Yorkshire, WF4 4RH, 01924 848806

ncm.org.uk

This entertaining 30-min show introduces you to some famous inventors and explains how the safety-flame lamp was invented and why it was so important to miners. Explosions guaranteed! 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm. FREE

11 March
MAD SCIENCE

Portland Basin Museum, Portland Place, Ashton under Lyne. OL7 0QA, 0161 343 2878

tameside.gov.uk/museumsgalleries/families

A trio of spectacular scientists will astound and amaze. With three very different fun station laboratories there is bound to be something to bewilder, baffle and surprise everyone. 11am-3.30pm

14 March
WACKY WEDNESDAY SCIENCE SPECIAL

National Coal Mining Museum for England, Caphouse Colliery, New Road, Overton, Wakefield, Yorkshire, WF4 4RH, 01924 848846 ncm.org.uk
Discover the science hidden in nursery rhymes and stories. Play and learn with hands-on activities. Enjoy a quirky shadow puppet show. £5. Babies of 9 months and under are free. 10-11.30am

14-17 March
THE BIG BANG FAIR

The National Exhibition Centre (NEC), Birmingham, West Midlands, B40 1NT thebigbangfair.co.uk
Largest free celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) for young people. Open to families on 14 March. 9am-4:30pm.

17 March
SAFARI PHIL'S ANIMAL ADVENTURE

Portland Basin Museum, Portland Place, Ashton-under-Lyne. OL7 0QA, 0161 343 2878
tameside.gov.uk/museumsgalleries/families
Safari Phil and the critter crew return with a special ecological and zoological animal adventure. This is no ordinary animal handling experience. 11am-3pm

18 March
FAMILY SCIENCE DAY: SEE HOW THEY RUN

National Coal Mining Museum for England, Caphouse Colliery, New Road, Overton, Wakefield, Yorkshire, WF4 4RH, 01924 848846
ncm.org.uk
Book a unique See How They Run underground tour (£4 per person charge) to see some of our underground machinery working. Take a train ride to Hope Pit (small fee applies) and take part in hands-on science experiments. 11am

5 benefits of arts and crafts for your child

Busy parents often use arts and crafts as an easy form of entertainment for creative children, but arty activities should not be dismissed as a last resort indoors activity for children on rainy days. Arts and crafts are not only a great hobby, but can significantly impact learning in a positive way, and can improve your child's bilateral coordination in addition to being a great social activity and self-esteem booster. Charlotte Baldwin, operations manager at IQ cards, goes through 5 of the top benefits of arts and craft.

Fine Motor Coordination

Whilst keeping between the lines when colouring can be aesthetically pleasing, it also works wonders for your child's fine motor coordination skills, which involves the synchronization between small muscles and movements in hands and fingers with thought processes in the brain. Tasks such as drawing, colouring in shapes and cutting, all help children progress these skills by making them focus and coordinate between thoughts and physical actions.

Self Regulation & Organization

Rome wasn't built in a day, and often crafts can't be completed in 24 hours, either. Activities such as papier mache and painting involve a lot of waiting time before being able to proceed with new layers. Waiting for projects to be complete before moving onto the next stage will teach your child about patience, just as multitasking during the meantime will help develop time management and organization skills. Self regulation is all about knowing which present actions will affect your long term interests.

Bilateral Coordination

It's often easy for adults to take skills such as bilateral coordination for granted, but for growing children, these early stages are a crucial time for improving and developing skills that will be needed for everyday tasks such as writing and typing in everyday life. Bilateral coordination involves using both hands at once to perform a task, so, for example, cutting out shapes, or sewing fabric.

Social Skills

Arts and Crafts is a sociable activity: from painting parties to crafts clubs, arts & crafts will open up a new world of social interaction for your child. Learning to work around others and to share are invaluable lessons for your child to take along with them through education and future work life.

Self-Esteem

Support from parents and peers can often be very encouraging for children embracing their creative streak. Praising your child for their arts & crafts efforts can be done verbally or even by hanging up their artwork on the fridge or walls, which will build their confidence. Your child's creative talents should be rewarded consistently to boost their self esteem.

Charlotte Baldwin is the operations manager at IQ cards and understands the importance of arts and crafts. IQ cards is a fundraising company that provide schools and establishments with the necessary tools to fundraise via selling high-quality and unique gifts designed by pupils.



HOLIDAY WORKSHOP



Stagecoach
Huddersfield

Stagecoach Will ROCK You

PUT ON A SHOW

Make friends and build confidence at our theatre workshops

Wednesday 21st - Friday 23rd February

Age: 4 - 18 year olds
Time: Mon - Fri, 10:00am - 4.00pm
Performance: Friday at 6pm
Cost: £75 (£50 for siblings) Deposit £25
Venue: Newsome High School, HD4 6JN.
 FREE wraparound care available from 8.30am - 6pm.

stagecoach.co.uk/huddersfield
 0113 8083107



Easter Nest Cakes

Ingredients: for the cakes
 150g soft butter or margarine
 150g caster sugar
 3 eggs
 150g self raising flour
 1 heaped tbsp cocoa powder
 Grated zest of an orange

**Ingredients:
 for the icing and nests**
 160g icing sugar
 50g soft butter
 1 tbsp cocoa powder
 1-2 tbsp orange juice – from the orange you have just used
 100g dark chocolate chips
 1 tbsp golden syrup
 5-6 shredded wheat biscuits
 Chocolate mini eggs

What you will need...

Weighing scales, Mixing bowls, Wooden spoon, Fork, Saucepan, 12 Hole muffin tray, Measuring jug, Tablespoon, Teaspoon, Sharp knife, Large plate, Muffin cases, An adult

How to make Easter nest cakes....

WASH YOUR HANDS.

1. Ask an adult to preheat the oven to 170c/gas 4 and put a shelf onto the centre runner. (AGA Roasting oven – shelf on oven floor).
2. Cream the butter and sugar until light and fluffy, beat in the eggs then fold in the flour, cocoa powder and grated orange zest. Mix well.
3. Spoon the mixture into 12 muffin cases in a muffin tray, ask an adult to put the muffin tray into the oven and bake for 20-25 minutes, until springy, to check, insert a skewer, if it comes out clean the cakes are cooked. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.
4. While the cakes are cooking make the icing; cream the icing sugar, butter and cocoa powder together, adding sufficient orange juice to make a stiff icing.
5. Ask an adult to melt the chocolate chips and golden syrup in a heatproof bowl over a pan of barely simmering water. Use your fingers to crumble up the shredded wheat and add to the melted chocolate mix, stir to mix.
6. Once your cakes have cooled spread the chocolate buttercream icing on top then arrange the chocolate shredded wheat mixture to look like nests and finish with 2 or 3 chocolate eggs.

If you prefer you can substitute the shredded wheat mixture for chocolate flakes, break them up and arrange them on the icing, top with chocolate eggs as before.

With thanks to Beverley Glock Cookery School



Easter Chicks in a Basket

What you'll need:

- A polystyrene egg/s
- Different shades of yellow paper / tissue paper cut into small squares
- Small piece of brown or black card for beak
- Gloopy glue & spreader
- Googly eyes
- Match sticks for legs
- Feathers for plumage

What to do:

1. Spread glue all over your egg and layer with your different colour yellow squares to create "fluffy feathers" Tip – pop the egg onto a matchstick to make it easier to hold whilst adding the feathers
2. Add your googly eyes & beak
3. Pop in your match sticks for legs
4. Finish off with your real feather plumage and your new friend is complete!

Why not give your chicks a home & decorate with some lovely Easter stickers too? You can do this using the base on a small box (cereal box would be ideal) and creating an easy handle from a strip of light card.

This project was created by Creation Station. Visit thecreationstation.co.uk



Alternative Easter Gift Guide

Bored of chocolate? Do you want to give your loved ones a special Easter gift this year that isn't edible? Well, you've come to the right place! Here's our alternative guide for 2018.

Row of Speckled Eggs cushion £26.99, welovecushions.com

This range of fabulous cushions has a variety of stylish designs featuring eggs, bunnies, hares and cockerels. They would make a lovely addition to any sofa.

Colour-In Easter Top £14, selfieclothing.co.uk

This really cool company does a range of colour-in clothes. You can get a colour-in Easter top, in different sizes for children aged two to ten. Each top is printed with a design ready for your child to colour in with Selfie pens to make it their own. Once they have been coloured in and ironed, the designs will stay permanently, so your child has a unique piece of clothing they can keep. The company offers a huge variety of designs, including capes and PJs too!



Snazaroo, Mini Theme Pack £2.99, snazaroo.com

Snazaroo has launched these pocket-friendly face paint packs. They're just £2.99 per pack, with instructions and face paints included. They have ten designs to choose from including an Easter bunny and chick. It's a really fun, budget friendly present for boys and girls.



Personalised Egg & Solider Board £25, hugosworkshop.co.uk

This fun personalised Egg & Solider board is made from upcycled oak kitchen worktops and is personalised with the name of your choice. It is a beautiful, unusual gift that will last for years.



Personalised Bunny Dining Set £39, ellieellie.co.uk

This cute, personalised bunny plate set is a great way to add a touch of fun to any table this Easter. Each set includes a dinner plate, side plate and mug and every item includes a bunny silhouette with your chosen name.



Oskar & Ellen Doll's House with Bunnies £24.99, borngifted.com

This gorgeous, handmade Swedish designed toy looks lovely and is great fun to play with too. It's a cloth house that has a cute bunny family inside. It also has a carry handle so it's easy to transport too. Suitable for children aged three and above.



Kooshi Backpack £34.99, kooshi.co.uk

We love this Kooshi Bunny backpack. It was designed by a mum who was fed up of using valuable space in her kids' bags transporting things for them to nap on during journeys. The pillow can be detached and used on a plane, car or bus, so your child can sleep in peace. The perfect bag to take on holiday!



Greatest Egg Hunt Ever Jumper £23, ellieellie.co.uk

Perfect to wear on an Easter hunt and an ideal gift for the little adventurers and the all-round mini-sleuths in your life. Made from a cotton blend these unisex sweatshirts have a soft feel with a fleecy lining and are designed for a 'relaxed' fit. Available in fuchsia and pastel blue.



For 2-4 year olds Funded places available
Weekdays 9.15-12.15am



Heckmondwike WF16 0EJ 01924 408714



Code: FPenn Valid to 30.04.18



26 March

ROMEO & JULIET

The Victoria Theatre, Fountain Street, Halifax, HX1 1BP, 01422 351158 victoriatheatre.co.uk
This star-crossed story of duels, bitter family feuds and love that cannot be, is unmissable. Family audience. £29-£37. 7.30pm

27 March

CINDERELLA

The Victoria Theatre, Fountain Street, Halifax, HX1 1BP, 01422 305959 victoriatheatre.co.uk
The world's favourite rags to riches fairy-tale where dreams can come true, is a magical mix of Prokofiev's energetic score, lively choreography and colourful costumes. £29-£37. 7.30pm

27 - 31 March

AWFUL AUNTIE

The Alhambra Theatre, Morley Street, Bradford, BD7 1AJ, 01274 432000 bradford-theatres.co.uk
The world premiere of David Walliams' amazing tale of frights, fights and friendship, featuring a very large owl, a very small ghost and a very awful Auntie! 2 hrs. £18.50-£20.50.

28 March

SWAN LAKE

The Victoria Theatre, Fountain Street, Halifax, HX1 1BP, 01422 351158 victoriatheatre.co.uk
The greatest romantic ballet of all time featuring Tchaikovsky's haunting and unforgettable score, this compelling tale of tragic romance has it all. Family audience. £22-£37. 2.30pm and 7.30pm

30 March

PACE EGG PLAY

Littleborough Coach House, Lodge Street, Littleborough, OL15 9AE, 01706 378481 littleboroughcoachhouse.org
The Curtain Theatre Players will be returning on Good Friday to

perform the traditional Easter Pace Egg Play in the round. Free. The event is always popular so come early to get a seat! 11am.

3 & 4 April

GRANDAD'S ISLAND

Theatre Royal Wakefield, Drury Lane, Wakefield, WF1 2TE, 01924 211311 theatreroyalwakefield.co.uk
Syd's favourite person in the whole wide world is Grandad. And Grandad's favourite person is Syd. Join the intrepid duo as they head off on a heart-warming adventure filled with songs, laughter and jungles that will change their lives forever. 5+. £9-£14. 11am/ 2pm

5 April

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

The Victoria Theatre, Fountain Street, Halifax, HX1 1BP, 01422 351158 victoriatheatre.co.uk
A fun-filled Easter pantomime with a star cast, impressive music, energetic dance routines as well as plenty of jokes, slapstick and heaps of audience participation! Family audience. £20.

9 April

ALAN IN WONDERLAND AND THE THREE GOATS PLUS

Astley Cheetham Art Gallery, Trinity St, Stalybridge, SK15 2BN, 0161 342 4144.
Oldham Library, Civic Centre, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1UT, 0161 770 3000 oldham.gov.uk/libraries
A magical and immersive show by Booster Cushion Theatre Company complete with larger than life props. 4-7 years. 50 mins. 11.30am & 1pm. £3 per child, accompanying adults are free (max 1 adult per child).

9 & 10 April

THE BOY WHO CLIMBED INTO THE MOON

Theatre Royal Wakefield, Drury Lane, Wakefield, WF1 2TE, 01924 211311 theatreroyalwakefield.co.uk
Odd ideas are floating around Paul's street. Mabel's brother hides under a brown paper bag. Clarence the poodle thinks he can fly. But Paul thinks that the moon is a hole in the sky and he's going to climb into it. 6-11. £9-£14.



17 March

NATURE AND THE NIGHTS SKY SATURDAY

RSPB Dearne Valley, Old Moor, Old Moor Lane, Dearne Valley Nature Reserve, Wombwell, Barnsley, S73 0YF, 01226 751593 rspb.org.uk/oldmoor
Find your nature 'wow' with a family guided walk to see the wildlife coming in to roost, followed by an evening of stargazing.

31 March

CALL TO THE WILD SATURDAY

RSPB Dearne Valley, Old Moor, Old Moor Lane, Dearne Valley Nature Reserve, Wombwell, Barnsley, S73 0YF, 01226 751593 rspb.org.uk/oldmoor
Recreate the sound of a bittern booming across the reserve with the Bittern BOOM box and be entertained by characterful storytelling and song while going wild on the reserve.



24 March - 15 April

STEAMPUNK SCIENCE

Eureka! The National Children's Museum, Discovery Road, Halifax, HX1 2NE, 01422 330069 eureka.org.uk
Head to Eureka! for some science fun during the Easter holidays. Standard entry or free with your Annual Pass.

24 March - 15 April

A MAD HATTER OF AN EASTER

Lotherton Hall, Off Collier Lane, Aberford, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS25 3EB, 0113 378 2959 leeds.gov.uk/lotherton
Daily springtime crafts in the house, Wildlife World, outdoor

games and a Mad Hatter's trail. The popular Mad Hatter's Tea Party takes place every Wednesday with Flamingo Fun in the Nestbox Education Centre. 10am-4pm.

30 Mar 2018 - 2 Apr 2018

EASTER TOURNAMENT 2018

Royal Armouries, Armouries Drive, Leeds, LS10 1LT
royalarmouries.org
Enjoy the thrills and spills of authentic medieval jousting in the heart of Leeds. 12pm and 2.15pm and the Grand Final at 3pm.

30 March & 20 April

PLAYGROUND

Leeds Art Gallery, The Headrow, Leeds, LS1 3AA
art.gallery@leeds.gov.uk
Sessions are for under-5s and their carers to help children gain confidence as learners, explorers, discoverers, imaginative and creative thinkers. 10am-12pm. Tour at 1.30pm

1 April

BUTTERFLY CRAFTS

Bagshaw Museum, Wilton Park, Batley WF17 0AS, 01924 324765
kirklees.gov.uk/museums
Celebrate Spring and the opening of the Butterfly House at the top of Wilton Park. Get 'buzzy' with themed crafts and activities. £2 per child. All welcome. No booking required. 12-4pm

1 April

KITE (KIDS IN THE ENVIRONMENT)

Park Bridge Heritage Centre, off the A627 Oldham Road, Ashton-u-Lyne. OL6 8AQ
tameside.gov.uk
Fun activities for 7-11 years discovering and exploring nature. Meet at 10am for 2 hours on the first Sunday of each month.

1 & 2 April

MILL ENGINE IN STEAM

Leeds Industrial Museum, Canal Road, Armley, Leeds, LS12 2QF, 0113 378 3173
leeds.gov.uk/armleymills
Did you know the mill was powered by an engine as well as a waterwheel? Come and see the mill engine in full steam and talk to a skilled engineer who will explain how it works.

2 April

EASTER BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

Portland Basin Museum, Portland Place, Ashton-under-Lyne. OL7 0QA, 0161 343 2878
tameside.gov.uk/museumsgalleries/families

Join in with the Easter holiday fun. With trails and craft activities galore, there's lots to keep the family entertained all day. 11am-3pm.

3, 5, 10, 12 April

MAKE, DO AND PLAY

Portland Basin Museum, Portland Place, Ashton-under-Lyne. OL7 0QA, 0161 343 2878
tameside.gov.uk/museumsgalleries/families

Artist led craft activities for all ages. £1 per child. 11am to 3pm

4 April

GO WILD IN SPRING

Meet at the car park, bottom of Meadow Lane, Haughton Green, Denton. M34 7QA
tameside.gov.uk

A chance for the whole family to get outdoors and 'Go wild'. Try den building, bug hunting and see what secret life lurks beneath the waters of the pond. 1-3pm

4, 11 April

MEET TOMMY ATKINS: FIRST WORLD WAR SOLDIER

Portland Basin Museum, Portland Place, Ashton under Lyne, OL7 0QA, 0161 343 2878
tameside.gov.uk/museumsgalleries/families

Have you ever wondered what a soldier wore, what he ate, how he lived, fought and died in the 'Great War for Civilisation'? 11am-3pm

10 April

CATERPILLAR CRAFTS

Bagshaw Museum, Wilton Park, Batley WF17 0AS, 01924 324765
kirklees.gov.uk/museums

Enter the wonderful world of Eric Carle and 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' with themed crafts and activities. £2 per child. All ages welcome. No booking required. 12-4pm



10 April

TAKEAWAY TUESDAY

Saddleworth Museum, High Street, Uppermill, Saddleworth, OL3 6HS, 01457 874093
saddleworthmuseum.co.uk

Drop-in workshop inspired by the museum's WW2 displays. Find out about the local 'Busy Bees', a wartime knitting group and make a felted or finger-knitted bee to take away. Crafts are free but Museum admission prices apply (£3 adults, £2 child & £6 family).

12 April

FORAGING IN THE WILD

Park Bridge Heritage Centre, Park Bridge, Ashton-U-Lyne OL6 8AQ, 0161 342 4144
oldham.gov.uk

Meet James Wood, expert Forager and author of 'The forager's cookbook' who will take us on a walk in the wilds of Rocher Vale discovering and sampling edible species. 10am-1pm. 8+. Spaces limited so book early. £8.

12 April

SCRAPTASTIC FAMILY WORKSHOP

Huddersfield Art Gallery, Princess Alexandra Walk, Huddersfield, HD1 2SU, 01484 221964
kirklees.gov.uk/museums

Join fairandfunky for crafts using recycled materials on the theme of spring. Suitable for children aged 3-12 years. £3.50 per child. 11am-1pm & 2pm-4pm

13 April

CARDBOARD CONSTRUCTION CAMP

Central Art Gallery, Old Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 7SG,
tameside.gov.uk

Can you think of anything more fun for all the family than a room full of cardboard boxes! You could also get involved in the Topple Project, using 6,000 MDF Dominos. FREE family friendly event. 11am-3pm.

14 April

SATURDAY SCRAPTASTIC

Huddersfield Art Gallery, Princess Alexandra Walk, Huddersfield, HD1 2SU, 01484 221964

kirklees.gov.uk/museums
Join fairandfunky for a monthly SCRAPTastic session on the second Saturday of the month, starting in April 2018. Suitable for children aged 3-12 years. £3.50 per child. 11am-1pm



11 March

MOTHER'S DAY - HERBAL BALM MAKING

Stirley Community Farm off Hall Bower Lane Berry Brow Huddersfield, Berry Brow, HD4 6RP, 01904 659570
ywt.org.uk

Learn a new skill and take a pot of skin/lip balm home with you! All ingredients & materials provided are organic and chemical-free! (Younger children will need to be supervised as wax will be heated up) 10:30am-1pm

11 March

MOTHER'S DAY AT TEMPLE NEWSAM

Temple Newsam Estate, Temple Newsam Park, Leeds, LS15 0AE, 0113 3367460
leeds.gov.uk/templenewsam

Stroll around the beautiful grounds and explore our stunning country mansion rooms filled with decorative art treasures. With tea time activities to keep the children entertained plus a special treat to decorate and take home.

12 March

OLDHAM LIBRARY

Oldham Library, Civic Centre, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1UT, 0161 770 3000
oldham.gov.uk/libraries
Songs and Stories to celebrate Mother's Day. 6pm-7pm



Please be aware that things change so check details and suitability for your family with the provider before setting out as Families Pennines cannot be held responsible for the events we list.

Where's the Easter Bunny?

Here's where to find the Easter Bunny across the region this Easter:

28 March – 16 April

GIANT EGG HUNT AT THE EASTER ADVENTURE

The Adventure Park, Stockeld Park, Wetherby, Yorkshire, LS22 4AN, 01937 586333
stockeldpark.co.uk

Find hidden eggs around the Enchanted Forest. Follow clues and work out the riddles. Complete the maps and post in the red post box located inside the café and you could win a Giant Easter egg! Winner will be drawn at random.

30, 31 March – 1, 2 April

EASTER EGGSPRESS

Kirklees Light Railway, Park Mill Way, Clayton West, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD8 9XJ, 01484 865 727 kirklees.vticket.co.uk

Meet the Easter Bunny. Other activities include: Easter egg hunt, egg & spoon races, arts & craft activities, children's entertainer, face painting, donkey rides, miniature train rides and platform rides.

30 March – 12 April

EASTER HOLIDAY FUN

Thwaite Mills Watermill, Thwaite Lane, Stourton, Leeds, LS10 1RP, 0113 3782983

leeds.gov.uk/thwaitemills

Pick up a nature pack to help you explore the grounds or take a free artist pack and get creative. Join the Easter Egg Trail on 1 April to help the Easter Bunny find all his lost eggs and don't miss Easter themed holiday activities on Tuesdays and Thursdays (1-3pm).

30 March – 13 April

EASTER HOLIDAYS AT ABBEY HOUSE MUSEUM

Abbey House Museum, Abbey Walk, Abbey Rd, Kirkstall, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS5 3EH, 0113 230 5492

leeds.gov.uk/abbeyhouse

Easter-themed family challenges, hunt for the golden eggs hidden around the Victorian streets. Enjoy amazing animals from Lion Learners featuring bugs and bunnies and meet the Easter Bunny.

30 March – 15 April

MIXING UP SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!

Millennium Square, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS2 8BH
leedsinspired.co.uk

An animal egg hunt, egg decorating, mask making, DJ-ing and some virtual reality run by Leeds Young Film Festival (pre-booking of some virtual reality events required at leedsyoungfilm.com).

31 March

EASTER CRAFTS AND EGG HUNT

Bagshaw Museum, Wilton Park, Batley WF17 0AS, 01924 324765
kirklees.gov.uk/museums

Easter crafts and an egg-citing egg hunt. Transform yourself into an Easter Bunny and make an Easter card. £2. All ages welcome. No booking required.

1 April

THWAITE FETE

Thwaite Mills Watermill, Thwaite Lane, Stourton, Leeds, LS10 1RP, 0113 3782983

leeds.gov.uk/thwaitemills

Take part in the Easter egg trail and bonnet competition and meet the Easter Bunny! Enjoy free boat rides on the canal, fun fair activities from hook a duck to splat the rat. Plus sack races, face-painting and field games. 11am-4pm

1 – 15 April

EASTER ACTIVITY TRAIL

Oakwell Hall Country Park, Nova Lane, Birstall, Batley WF17 9LG
www.kirklees.gov.uk/museums

Pick up your family activity pack from the Visitor Centre Shop and your adventure around the Country Park and Gardens begins. £1.50 per pack

2 – 15 April

SPRINGTIME BABIES

Temple Newsam Estate, Temple Newsam Park, Leeds, LS15 0AE, 0113 3367460

leeds.gov.uk/templenewsam

Meet new born animals and take part in an eggcellent Easter egg competition. This year the baby chicks have escaped into the house and farm. Count as many as you can to enter the competition to be in with a chance of winning a chocolate prize.

2 – 16 April

EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES MONDAY

RSPB Dearne Valley, Old Moor, Old Moor Lane, Dearne Valley Nature Reserve, Wombwell, Barnsley, S73 0YF, 01226 751593
rspb.org.uk/oldmoor

Explore nature with activities including pond dipping, bug hunting, bird feeder making and the eggcellent Easter treasure trail. With a cafe serving hot and cold food, gift shop selling a range of gifts, bird food and an adventure playground.

3, 4, 10, 11 April

SPARKS! EASTER HOLIDAY FUN

Bankfield Museum, Akroyd Park, Boothtown Rd, Halifax, HX3 6HG, 01422 354823

ticketsource.co.uk/calderdale

Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer. £3.50 per

child (£2.50 PTL). Daily egg hunts around the museum. (3rd) Create a Victorian Easter craft. (4th) Alice in Wonderland Tea Party. (10th) Make your own Victorian Toy. (11th) Create a porthole picture. 4-12. 11am-12noon, 1-2pm and 2-3pm

4 April

EASTER

Leeds Discovery Centre, Carlisle Rd, Leeds LS10 1LB, 0113 378 2100

leeds.gov.uk/discoverycentre

Look at the amazing eggs and egg cases from the Natural Science collection. Take part in the egg drop challenge. Guaranteed fun for the entire family. Free. 10am-12pm

5 & 12 April

EASTER BUNNY FUN

Shibden Hall, Lister's Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX3 6XG, 01422 352246

ticketsource.co.uk/Calderdale

Join the Shibden Bunny in its search for eggs and friends hidden in Cunnery Wood and grounds, then make a felt Easter themed craft. (Woodland walk unsuitable for prams and buggies). 4-8. Included in the admission to the hall. 11am-12pm/ 1-2pm/ 2-3pm

9 April

TAMESIDE JUNIOR HISTORY CLUB

Local Studies and Archives Centre, Central Library, Old Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 7SG, 0161 342 4242

tameside.gov.uk

Enjoy a Victorian Easter, with Easter egg hunt and Easter crafts. 2-3pm.

11 April

SCRAPTASTIC EASTER CRAFTS

Tolson Museum, Ravensknowle Park, Wakefield HD5 8DJ, 01484 223240

kirklees.gov.uk/museums

Join fairandfunky for some Easter themed crafts using recycled materials. £3.50 per child. 11am-1pm & 2pm-4pm