Earn up to 1-2 hours per challenge – time awarded is at discretion of School Coordinators

**DIY Christmas Crafts**  [Up to 2 hours]

Did you know craft Christmas trees can be made with popsicle sticks, clothes pegs, wool yarn and beads? Make your own Christmas creation using simple easy-to-find materials – it can be anything you like, such as Christmas trees, bells, angels and more! Show your creation or a photo of it to your School Coordinator.

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**The best thing about 2020 was...**  [Up to 1 hour]

It’s been a tough year, but even during tough times there are some good things. What was the best thing about 2020 for you? Make something that shows the positive stuff for this year. It can be something you build, draw, sing, dance or anything, once it is about your 2020. Share it with your School Coordinator.
Make a Planet  [Up to 2 hours]
Make your own planet – it can be a planet from our solar system or your own created planet. It can be big or small, it’s up to you. There are many ways to do this – some people use a balloon and Papier-mâché, others might find a ball or other round object. Show your planet or a photo of it to your School Coordinator.

Home-made Hats  [Up to 2 hours]
Create your own home-made hat, cap or headwear. Use easy to find materials – paper, cardboard, cloth, bowls or buckets, scissors, string and decorative items should do the trick. Decide what style of hat and have some fun! Show your home-made hat or a photo of it to your School Coordinator.
Retro Remnants  [Up to 1 hour]

Find something old – something that was used a lot by people before you were born, but not used much anymore. You might find it at an antique shop, a museum or even on a history TV show! Find out as much as you can and share what you learn – provide a photo or drawing of it for your School Coordinator.

Your Speech  [Up to 1 hour]

You’ve been invited to talk to a big audience about something you are interested in. What will you talk about? Do a drawing or painting of you delivering your speech and share with your School Coordinator.
**Tour Guides**  [Up to 1 hour]

Your mainland mates have just arrived in Tassie. They are here for 2 days and you are their tour guide. Where will you take them? Draw a map and pictures of your travels and show to your School Coordinator.

**Time to Vote**  [Up to 2 hours]

We live in a democracy and when you’re 18 you will be able to vote in elections, so let’s get some early practice. Organise a vote for your classmates, family/friends or another group. Decide what they’re voting on – it could be Apples vs Oranges, or any other voting topic. Make a hole in a cardboard box, create some ballot papers and find a pencil for your voters. Afterwards, share your results with your School Coordinator.
Children’s University Tasmania
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**Documentary Billboards**  [Up to 1 hour]

You’ve been invited to make a documentary so that other children can learn about your favourite topic. Make a billboard or poster and promote it your School Coordinator. Recommend A4 or larger size.

**Comic Strip**  [Up to 1 hour]

Create a Comic Strip about an activity or experience you did recently. Use your imagination and use a series of pictures to tell your story – show your comic strip to your School Coordinator.
Letters & Name Game  [Up to 1 hour]

What are the letters in your name? Pick a letter from your name and find something you love that starts with this letter. It can be from your first name or surname – an example is below (Sarah, who loves Science 😊). Make a poster or card and show your fun creation to your School Coordinator.

From regal eagles to silly seagulls  [Up to 2 hours]

Do you have a favourite type of bird? Have you ever seen a rare or endangered species, such as the wedge tailed eagle pictured below? Make a model bird/artwork of your choice and show your School Coordinator.
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The Wonder Weekly (Newspaper)

Published by the Peter Underwood Centre
November 23, 2020

Released back into the wild:
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The Wonder Weekly

SANDCASTLE SCIENTISTS

An all summer approaches in Tasmania, children will be heading to the beach to play, surf and have fun in the sun. But what could be more fun than building a sandcastle?

Of course, the perfect sandcastle requires the perfect sand. The sand closest to the water is too wet to build with and collapses, while the sand farther away from the water is too dry to hold a shape. So what is the perfect sandcastle sand?

Scientists from the Netherlands and France collaborated to answer this very question.

They discovered that sand with a water content of 30% percent was required to build the largest sustainable structure. These results were published in the science journal *Nature*.

The study examined different areas of sand, noting that higher and higher amounts of sand. As one can see on the right side of the diagram, the sand that was able to build structures five meters high. Here that would be an important sandcastle.

A small amount of sand forms bridges between grains of sand, allowing them to support the weight of structures such as sandcastles. This is because of a force known as surface tension, which causes water molecules to attract each other to the sand.

Perhaps before heading to the beach you might like to test a site near your home. If you do, you will also notice it is not necessary to place the sand in the correct position. This is surface tension in action.

A mesh bucket and two aprons are being used, but using your hands is the best method for constructing a sandcastle. Connecting sand with little water ensures the water quickly between the grains and leads to a stronger castle. Perhaps before heading to the beach you might like to test a site near your home. If you do, you will also notice it is not necessary to place the sand in the correct position. This is surface tension in action.

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