



# CHARACTER MATTERS

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

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# PAGE TEMPLATE

	Title
Context and Explanation of Activity	Suggested Core Activity
	11 and Beyond Challenge
Virtues Developed	



This summer themed set of activities, created in 2021, has been designed by the Jubilee Centre for Character and Virtues to support parents, carers, and guardians of primarily key stage two aged pupils, but can be adapted for children of all ages.

Within this pack, you will find ten activities which promote a range of positive virtue traits, drawn from the Jubilee Centre's *A Framework for Character Education in Schools*.

This set also recognises the unique experience we have all lived through since March 2020, responding to the pandemic and returning from lockdowns. With that in mind it draws inspiration from the Centre's research in to effective character education pedagogies and youth social action, as well as the *Statement on Character and the Pandemic*. This Statement emphasises the importance of re-engaging with community as well as celebrating the role of service and adventure in good character education.

With the virtues encouraged through each activity noted alongside it, each also includes a 'stretch' activity for older children aged 11 and above encouraging them to build on their experiences and create longer term change.

Drawing particularly on nature and the outdoors, as well as opportunities for sharing and collaboration, this resource set encourages positive development through reflection whilst also providing a double benefit for the community of which we are all a part.

The Jubilee Centre look forward to seeing the results; please do share them with us using the details provided on the back page.

As you complete each activity, colour in the corresponding picture on the worksheet provided.

The virtues cultivated through each activity are highlighted in the darker box below it.



## Compassionate Correspondence

Communication is important in helping to show compassion, curiosity and respect to those in our lives, particularly if they are far away or we haven't seen them in a while.

Is there someone in particular or several people who you believe would most appreciate a letter from you this summer?

Write a letter on a weekly basis to an individual or group, or six letters to six different people over six weeks who you have missed this last year and would like to be in greater contact with.

### 11 and beyond challenge

Find an organisation that sends letters to those in peril, who have suffered injustice, have been imprisoned or have been displaced. Join this initiative.

*Compassion,  
Gratitude, Civility,  
Curiosity, Respect*





### Get Curious About Culture

The summer can be a time to explore new traditions and aspects of a culture which are different to your own, particularly if you are out on a day trip or on holiday somewhere.

What can you learn about that place, county or country? What is similar to where you are from, and what is it that makes that place unique?

Think about where you are going on your summer holidays this year or where you would like to visit one day.

Find out about the traditions of that place, for example: the food, music and history. Share what you have learned with your family or friends.

#### 11 and beyond challenge

Using what you have learned from your research, plan an activity or outing for when you visit the place explored.

*Curiosity, Respect, Community  
Awareness, Motivation,  
Independence*





## Getting To Know The Outdoors

This past year we have all developed gratitude for outside spaces. Both those we have discovered locally during lockdown or rediscovered now we can travel further afield.

Using this outdoor space, could you learn and refine a new skill?

For example, do you know the names of the trees in your local park or birds you see on your street? Could you build a Bee or Bug Hotel for your local park or your garden?

### 11 and beyond challenge

The Queen's Green Canopy initiative is encouraging the planting of trees in 2022 to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. Plan for a tree planting in your area next year.

*Resourcefulness, Teamwork,  
Curiosity, Gratitude,  
Neighbourliness*





## Skills Sharing

Many of us have hidden talents which we could share with others. Although these skills may come naturally to you, there can be real joy in sharing them with others.

The sharing and learning of skills, as well as the determination and patience to help someone else succeed in something new, could be the most rewarding part of your summer. You may even find yourself learning something as well.

Set yourself the goal of teaching a friend or sibling a new skill.

Think about how you will start this and encourage them to keep practising. Think about how this has improved your own abilities.

### 11 and beyond challenge

Organise an exhibition or talent show for your parents or family, sharing the skills you have learned or refined over the summer.

*Determination, Patience,  
Confidence, Perseverance,  
Resilience*





## Growing Up

Summer is a time to get outside and help things to grow.

Using seeds, bulbs, or cuttings, could you start your own window ledge farm and reconnect with nature?

*Perseverance, Resourcefulness,  
Neighbourliness, Service,  
Teamwork*

Once planted, nurture your seedlings or plants over the summer.

As part of a family or neighbourhood group, each grow something different, and then swap and share what you have grown within the group.

### 11 and beyond challenge

Join or help to set up a plant swap in your neighbourhood. Could you start or support a community garden in a local park?







## From The Farm To Your Fork

Do you know where your food comes from? Can you chart the 'green' benefits of your dinner?

Can you name the countries your food has travelled from and the route these foods have taken to reach your plate? What is the most local item in your fridge right now?

How far has your food travelled? What is its carbon footprint? Is it Fairtrade or fairly farmed? Do you know about its water use, farming practice, its use of palm oil etc?

Chart this on a world map and measure the distance back to your house.

### 11 and beyond challenge

For a day or over a week, eat local or as local as possible. Visit a local farmers market or greengrocer.

Could you make a meal for your family keeping all the food from sources within 25 miles?

*Community Awareness,  
Gratitude, Curiosity, Critical  
Thinking, Reflection*





## A Flourishing Community

This past year has been a tough one for communities across the country.

Have you noticed a need in your community? What do you think the solution could be?

Could you be that change?

Think about who helped you, your family, neighbours or friends during lockdown?

Could you help them now?

Who would you have liked to help this past year, but were not able to?

Does a group to help with this already exist, and could you join them? Is there a local food bank near you? Does your church, scout group, school or community group, etc. have a 'charity of the year' that you could support?

### 11 and beyond challenge

Choose your own charity of the year and set yourself a target of raising £1000 to support them in the next 6 months.

*Service, Compassion,  
Civility, Volunteering,  
Gratitude*





## Creative Crafts

As we are once again able to meet up, try to create or make something you could share with those that you wish you could have shared with last year.

Is there a cause that is important to you or your family that you could support?

*Determination, Patience,  
Confidence, Perseverance,  
Resilience*

Make or bake something to donate as part of a jumble sale, summer fair, village fete or community fair happening in your school, church, town or local area.

E.g., Tie dying t-shirts, baking cupcakes, donating old toys etc.

### 11 and beyond challenge

Volunteer to run a stall at a local fair with your parent or carer or help to organise the event.





## Get Active, Stay Active!

Set yourself an ambitious but achievable sporting challenge over the summer break. Divide this in to intervals and as you reach each one reflect on your success and how you will reach the next.

Join with friends and family to reach a collective goal and support one another.

Could you walk 5,000 steps a day? Or 50,000 in a week?

Could you take the perfect freekick?

Could you swim the distance between your home and school quicker than you could walk it?

### 11 and beyond challenge

Use the summer, either alone or as part of a holiday club, to train in a sport or activity. When you return to school join the corresponding team.

*Confidence, Determination, Perseverance, Motivation, Resilience*





## Reflection

This has been a great summer, full of new adventures, opportunities to help people and moments to develop your character. Well done for reaching this final activity!

Reflect on all that you have achieved through these activities over the summer holidays.

*Reflection, Gratitude,  
Integrity, Humility,  
Critical Thinking*

As well as using the reflection space on the worksheet provided, prepare a bag of items to show your new teacher.

What is the story behind the items? What positive virtues were you able to display? Which was your favourite activity? How will you approach things differently now?

### 11 and beyond challenge

Reflect on each of the virtues noted throughout this activity set. Use examples to share how you have demonstrated each one.



**Please share your  
finished activity and  
picture sheets with us, on  
twitter or via the email  
below**

**@JubileeCentre1  
#Charactermatters**

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