

# How to stay Wild at Home



## Every child is born a naturalist....

Wild Planet Trust has a vision of a world rich in wildlife and wild places. A world where everybody views nature as a source of wonder and inspiration, as a vital necessity, and as something we can all help to conserve for our collective future. Nature is something that we are all part of, and its conservation is something that we can all contribute towards. We may be facing challenges ahead but we truly believe that a daily dose of nature can provide us with a moment of calm that helps us as we move forwards towards a time when we can welcome you back to our zoos.

## Our Wild Child Manifesto

Conservation is all about people. It's about how we view the world around us, and the value that we place on nature. We have identified '**5 big things**'. Things that we can all think about and do to help build a world where conservation comes naturally. We hope you'll join us.

- 1. Creativity.** Nature has been a source of creativity for the whole of human history. It inspires, it enthral, it amazes, and it excites. From the melodies of morning birdsong to the silence of a night time garden, nature provide countless opportunities to engage your senses, expand your horizons, and turbo charge your creative juices.
- 2. Curiosity.** We are all born curious. The list of questions that a child might ask about the world around them is infinite. We should encourage 'why?' We should want to be challenged and stumped. We don't know everything. We want children to see that there is still an amazing world to uncover and explore.
- 3. Compassion.** It's a big world out there, full of people and places, animals and plants. Understanding how we impact on others, and understanding how our lives may differ from our neighbours is essential. We need to understand in order to care. Our conservation projects provide stories of the successes and challenges that face creatures and cultures around the world, but like conservation more generally, most of these stories begin at home, on your doorstep.
- 4. Citizenship.** To create the society and future we want, we need to recognise the importance of playing our part. We can all contribute in our own way; living our lives in a way that impacts positively on our communities and being the kind of person that says 'I can...'
- 5. Collaboration.** Every action, by every person, makes a difference. If we work together we can get more done. We can't do everything, but we can all do something. From teamwork challenges to active campaigning, we'll help you to get involved in the projects that matter and show how working together can help us to achieve our vision of a world rich in wild life and wild places.



# Things you can do to stay wild at home



Our Education team have put together a huge list of ideas to help keep you wild at home over the coming weeks.

**Listen:** Stand at your door and shut your eyes. What can you hear? Is it nearby, far away, or somewhere in between? Can you do this at different times of day? Are the noises different? Try first thing in the morning, or just before bed. Can you convince your parents to let you stay up late for a night time listen?

**Hapa Zome:** Also known as beating up leaves with hammers! A Japanese art where you fold flowers and leaves into a piece of cotton fabric and then beat them gently with a hammer or smooth stone. The colours from the leaves and flowers will transfer to the fabric, giving you your own nature painting to keep. Mind your fingers!

**Never ending veg:** Some vegetables will magically regrow from leftover stalks and stems. Carrot tops, spring onions, and celery are just some of the salad leftovers which will start to regrow if placed in a shallow saucer of water in a sunny windowsill.

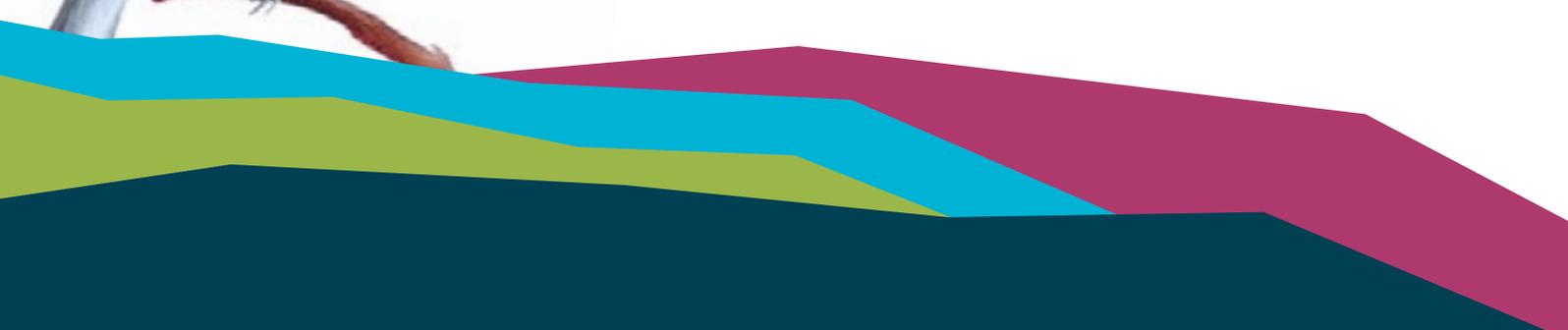
**Store cupboard jungle:** You might be able to grow your own jungle from leftovers and store cupboard staples if you have a sunny spot at home. You can find instructions easily online to grow avocado stones, but other things to try include root ginger, cardamom seeds, and chilli seeds, as well as orange or apple pips. For something really different, you can even grow quinoa – just scatter the grains onto moist compost and grow a whole field!

**Secret life of pets:** Have you ever wondered what your pet does when you're at school all day? Now's the time to find out! Keep a daily diary of your pet's activities. If you don't have a pet, maybe you could keep a diary of who visits your garden, or who you spot on a daily walk?



## **No spot bird spotter:**

Listening to bird song is a great way to unwind and relax, but can you tell different birds apart from their song? Different birds have different songs so see if you can learn to tell them apart without seeing them. There are loads of guides online that will help you discover if you were correct!



**Catch up on a bit of Sir David:** Thanks to streaming services and catch-up TV, there's never been a better time to become an armchair explorer. Although we don't think it compares to a trip to our zoos, while we remain closed, you could discover wild life, and wild places by watching some of the excellent documentary series.



**Guessing trees:** Do you know what that tree is at the end of your road? If you go for a walk, see if you can guess which tree is which. In a few weeks' time, spring will have sprung and many trees will be covered in new leaves, allowing you to see if you were right!



**Bugs at Home:** It's not just you that calls your house a home. Have an explore around your house and garden to see who else lives there. Remember to be gentle – mini beasts and bugs are very fragile, so look but don't touch! You could also make your own 'spotters guide' to help other people in your family find out about your house guests!



**Wild Crafts:** The list of wild-themed craft activities you can do at home is almost endless. If you fancy doing something creative, why not try one of the ideas below...



- ◆ Use scraps of recycled magazines and leaflets to make a collage of your favourite animal.
- ◆ Think of the coolest features from your favourite animals at the zoo and use them as inspiration to draw a completely new creature. Then give it a crazy name – eg, kangacrockapig, zeberilla.
- ◆ Choose an animal from our Animal A-Z on the zoo website, write 10 cryptic clues about it then ask someone to work out which animal they think it might be.

- Google some animal noises and see if you can mimic them. Then see if someone can guess what they are!
- Draw some animal tracks, trace them on to a potato or sponge, ask a grown up to help you carve them out then dip them in paint to make animal print pictures.
- Make a LEGO® animal, ready for our Great Big Brick Safari.
- Research your favourite animal and make a list of Top 10 Amazing Facts about it.
- Make some origami animals – there are loads of patterns online. See if you can make an origami Zoo!

