

Practical activity ideas

Notes for the teacher – If your children need to review their learning, you can use these activities to support them.

Exploration snakes and ladders

The resources required for this activity include a printed grid to use as a snakes and ladders board, pencils, colouring pencils, counters and a die.

Activity: Using the challenges and motivations of explorers, children should draw in the snakes and ladders to represent the challenges (snakes) and motivations or positive outcomes (ladders) in the life of a typical explorer. Where each snake or ladder begins, they should write a challenge or motivational event experienced by a typical explorer e.g. 'You face a dangerous crocodile' (snake), or 'You inspire others to save the planet' (ladder).

Once complete, children can play their game in pairs or small groups with counters and a die.

Tug of war

The resources required for this activity include a long rope, a central marker and two signs: 'Explorer challenges' and 'Explorer motivations'.

Activity: Children should be split into two teams, each representing one of the different sides: either 'challenges/obstacles to exploring' or 'reasons/motivations to explore'. With the middle of the rope marked with tape, it should begin over the central marker. Children gripping each side of the rope pull as hard as they can for their team and aim to pull the other team over the central marker. Each child could represent one of the specific challenges or motivations of an explorer. The random outcomes of each tug of war represents the valid reasons for success and failure in explorations.

New species

The resources required for this activity include playdough/modelling clay, matchsticks, feathers, sequins, beads, modelling tools, paper, pencils and pens.

Activity: Children are to use modelling clay/playdough and junk modelling items to create a new species that was discovered on one of their explorations. Just like Charles Darwin, they could write about the new species that they have discovered.

