Family Connect

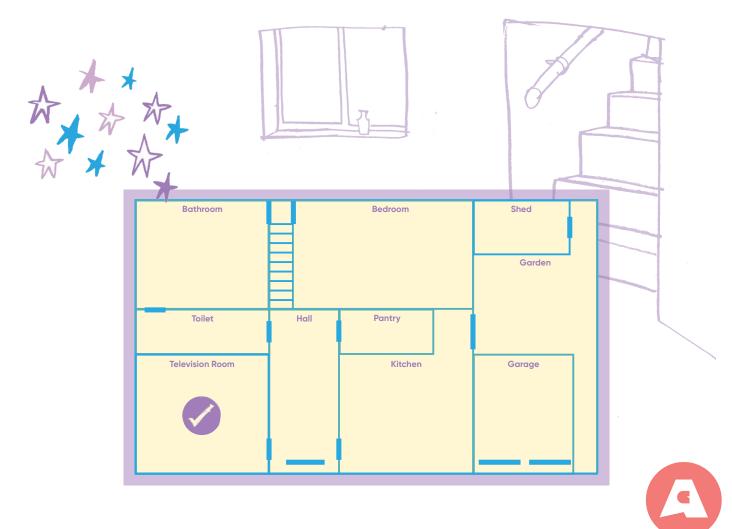
Totally TV!



Connecting some of your family's indoor leisure activities to their learning!

There are four challenges here: one for children aged 4 – 6, one for those aged 6 – 8, one for those 9 and over – and one for the whole family. We'd suggest that your children tackle the age-appropriate challenge as independently as possible – before all settling down together for the Family Challenge.

Your children can write their responses on anything – but if it helps, there are printable worksheets at the end of this document. In fact, you can type directly onto these on your device, too, if you want to cut down on printing!







Challenge 1: Literacy

Ask your child/children to imagine that your carpet or rug is, in fact, a magic flying carpet that could take them anywhere in the world in seconds (if you don't have a carpet/rug, your sofa or an armchair will work just as well!). Explain that the challenge is to pick just the top four people or places they would like to visit - and to write these down.

Challenge 2: Maths

Ask your child/children to select one of their favourite picture books (one that you actually have in the house!). Look at it together – ask your child/children to tell you a bit about the story.

Agree an opposing pair of "positional" words – for example high and low ... long and short ... big and small. Explain that the challenge is to look through the pictures in the book to find an example of each – and write them down or represent them in images. Repeat the process until you have found examples of five pairs of words.

Challenge 3: Science

Talk about electricity – and ask your child/children to think of an object in the kitchen that runs on electricity. The challenge now is for them to close their eyes and think of (a) five objects in your TV room that run on electricity ... and (b) exactly where in the room they are! Their responses should be recorded by another member of the family – before you work together to see how accurate they were.

Note: this challenge provides a great opportunity for a family discussion on the role electricity usage plays in climate change!

Challenge 4: Art

Look at some family photographs together – or, if you don't have any, talk about a recent family event. Ask your child/children to talk about how they and other people felt when the photo was being taken/at the family event – and how these feelings could be captured in a drawing/painting/collage. Then set them the challenge of creating the artwork!

Note: we'd love to see the outcomes – so why not tweet them, using @AsCreatives and #FamilyConnect





Ages 6 - 8

Challenge 1: Literacy

Ask your child/children to think about the television programmes they like, and to identify which is their favourite. Explain that the challenge is to write a letter to the creator of the show, to say "Thank You". Their first task will be to come up with four reasons why their programme is so good – and record these (the Answer Sheet might come in useful here). They can then use them to help "build" their letter.

Challenge 2: Maths

Ask your child/children to select one of their favourite books (one that you actually have in the house!). Look at it together – ask your child/children to tell you a bit about the story.

Explain that the challenge is to go through the book and find five examples of "maths". We're using the broadest definition of maths here – so examples might include use of time (including day/night), money, distance, speed, dimensions or sorting/categorisation, as well as shapes and numbers!). Your child/children should write their responses down – including page references.

Note: this is a lovely way to support everyone in realising that "maths" is so much more than just numbers!

Challenge 3: Science

Talk about electricity – and ask your child/children to identify five objects in your TV room that run on electricity. Explain that the challenge now is to arrange them in an order that represents how much electricity each one uses. Use an internet search engine to see how accurate (or not!) the answers are.

Challenge 4: Art

Ask your child/children to think of one member of the family (including themselves!) – and then think of five of that person's characteristics. Explain that the challenge now is to think of a way that these characteristics (not the person themselves) could be captured in a drawing/ painting/collage. Then set them the challenge of creating the artwork!

Note: we'd love to see the outcomes – so why not tweet them, using @AsCreatives and #FamilyConnect





Ages 9 and over

Challenge 1: Literacy

Ask your child/children to select any object in your TV room. Explain that the challenge is to write an acrostic poem about it, where taking the first letter of each line, in order, spells out their chosen object.

Challenge 2: Maths

Ask your child/children to select one of their favourite books (one that you actually have in the house!). Look at it together – ask your child/children to tell you a bit about the story.

Explain that the challenge is to use the book to come up with five calculations for another member of the family to complete. Each calculation must use the book in a different way. For example ... finding a page with a specific illustration on, finding another page with a specific illustration on – and subtracting one page number from the other ... a calculation using the date of the author's birth and the date the book was first published ... estimating the time lapse between two chapters/incidents. Your child/children should write their calculations down – and test them on somebody else!

Challenge 3: Science

Explain that the challenge is to think of five ways that the family could save energy – in your TV room – without going to extremes. Your child/children should write their ideas down. Discuss them as a family – will you actually do any of these?

Challenge 4: Art

Look out of the window with your child. What can you see? More importantly, what can you hear, even in the distance (the world is a bit of a quieter place at the moment – so you might have to listen carefully!)? Explain that the challenge now is to think of a way that these sounds could be captured in a drawing/painting/collage/sculpture. Then set them the challenge of creating the artwork!

Note: we'd love to see the outcomes – so why not tweet them, using @AsCreatives and #FamilyConnect





Family Challenge

Getting Started

Explain that each person (including you!) is to think of one film or TV programme that they would like to watch with the whole family (these should be films/programmes that you actually could watch, on whatever platform). Write these up on a large piece of paper.

Maths

Each family member now needs to find out exactly how long their nominated film/programme lasts – and when would be a good time in the day to watch it together. Share these – and add them to the piece of paper.

Science

You're going to have to burn off a few calories before settling down to your film/programme – so, as a family, agree on a five minute exercise routine that you can all do together. Remember that your routine should both stretch your muscles and exercise your heart and lungs! Agree on which member/s of the family will lead the routine.

Design Technology (1)

Work individually or in pairs to design a menu of snacks to accompany your nominated films/ programmes. These should all be things you either already have in stock or that can be made from things you have in stock - ingredients for these probably wouldn't count as "essential shopping"!

Literacy (1)

Settle down to put together a persuasive argument to entice people to your choice of film/ programmes. This might be a speech, an advert, a poster – or something completely different. Make sure you refer to your snack selections – these could be real selling points!

PSHE

Agree how you're going to decide on which of the films/programmes to watch, once all the persuasive presentations have been made. An open ballot (hands up)? A secret ballot (you'll need to make some ballot papers if this is your choice)? Can family members vote for their own nominations?







Literacy (2)

Speaking and listening are key literacy skills – so settle down to enjoy each other's persuasive arguments. You might want to agree some groundrules beforehand – particularly around the area of respect.

Once the arguments have all been made, use your chosen method to decide which of the films/programmes you're going to watch.

Design Technology (2)

You'll now also know, of course, which menu of snacks you're going to be enjoying. Whoever nominated the winning film/programme now has to tell other family members exactly what to do to create the menu. That person doesn't get to sit off, though – they must play an active role in all this themselves!

PE

Led by the designated family member or members, go through the exercise routine that you've all agreed on.

Note: if your menu of snack includes any hot food, you might want to do this before Design Technology (2)!

Film Studies

Settle down to watch the winning film/programme. Everyone must take part – and, no matter how roused, no-one is allowed to moan while it's on! Before it starts, outline the Active Viewing/ Listening Challenge ... once the experience is over, each family member will need to give feedback in three areas: (1) three words to describe the film/programme ... (2) something they really enjoyed about it ... (3) one thing that could have been even better.

Reflection

Take it in turns to feed back on the Active Viewing/Listening Challenge!

Note: we'd love to hear about your experiences – so why not tweet about them, using @AsCreatives and #FamilyConnect

