



Pal's Journey to the Centre of the Island

The Story

In 'Pal's Journey to the Centre of the Island' Puffin Pal decides to go on an adventure to find out where all of the burrows on Lucky Island go. He gathers together his friends, each of whom has different strengths and weaknesses, and they set off down the nearest burrow.

The tunnels are very dark and confusing, and they soon get lost, but by using their unique strengths and with Pal's leadership they find their way back to the surface. This story is about taking managed risks, understanding your own strengths and those of others, and solving problems through teamwork.

The Story and the Enterprise Eggs

This story is linked to five of the Enterprise Eggs:

 **Be Positive** - Pal's self-belief and belief in his friends' capabilities is what helps the team find their way home when they get lost. His positive outlook is what keeps them going during the crisis.

 **Think Big** - Pal is unafraid of the challenges that he might face on this adventure, and sets out to explore and find out something new. He is not limited by his experience and is always curious.

 **Have a Go** - Pal initiates the adventure but also leads the way when things go wrong. He is taking managed risks by taking his friends along with him on his journey.

 **Keep Going** - Pal responds positively to the challenge of being lost in the tunnels, and keeps going when things are difficult.

 **Work Together** - The team work well together, each of them using their unique strengths to find their way out of trouble.

Parent & Teacher Guide

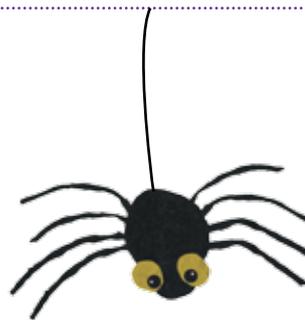
Enterprise Eggs Activity Ideas

Get Outdoors Bug hunts are a great way to find out more about the rich insect life around us - in the story you'll find Sexton Beetles, Soldier Beetles, Spiders, Worms and more. Why not take photographs of everything you find on your bug hunt to help you identify them using the internet or an insect book instead of taking them home with you.

Overcoming Obstacles Work with children to create a fact card about themselves like the ones for each animal in the story (you can download a blank card from our web site). Each child should identify the things they are good at and not so good at. Find an activity where they can use their strengths to help others solve problems and find another where they can develop an area where they are not so good with help from someone else.

Rainy Days Print off the animal cards from our web site, cut them out, colour them in, stick them to postcards and play pairs with them - reading out the animal facts as you go.

Make your own 'burrow' at home using blankets and furniture to create a den.



Did you Know?

Manx Shearwater Mums and Dads leave their chicks all alone in their burrows when they start their migration to South America each year. It's only when the chick gets hungry that it ventures out of the burrow.

Even more amazing is that Manx Shearwater chicks instinctively start their own journeys to South America without any adults to guide them!



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Curriculum-Based Activity Ideas

The activities below are linked to the Welsh Foundation Phase curriculum, but many will also be relevant to the Early Years Foundation Stage (England), the Early Years Framework (Scotland) and the Foundation Stage (Northern Ireland).

Personal and Social Development, Well-being and Cultural Diversity

- Ask children to imagine what it would feel like to be lost underground. They can cover their eyes to help them imagine/empathise. What would they do if they were ever lost?
- Calling for help. Reinforce messages about what to do if they get lost. Make a cone shaped loud hailer out of sugar paper and sticky tape – this could also be used to introduce the science of the amplification of sound.

Language, Literacy and Communication Skills

- Vocabulary item 'curious'. What does curious mean? Why is it good to be curious? When is it not good to be curious? (Link to Personal and Social Development)
- Practice asking questions. Why? What? Where? When? How? Learn about question marks – how and when to use them. Practice writing question marks.

Did you Know?

Puffins and Manx Shearwaters make their nests in burrows underground, and these burrow complexes are sometimes shared with Rabbits (and lots of other bugs and small creatures)!

Mathematical Development

- Introduce the number of legs each creature has (beetle 6, spider 8, puffin 2) and use these for simple counting exercises or addition and subtraction e.g. spider + puffin = 10 legs.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

- In the sunrise scene at the beginning of the book we see in the background some of the seabirds who normally only fly at night – the Manx Shearwater and the Storm Petrel. Can the children find out more about Storm Petrels online or in a bird guide?
- Manx Shearwaters are amazing creatures who fly thousands of miles to spend their winters off the coast of Brazil and Argentina.
- Trace their route on a map or globe and use this as a springboard to learning more about Brazil and Argentina.
- We also learn about Guillemots and Kittiwakes – what can the children find out about them? These birds nest on cliffs and the young Guillemots jump into the sea from a great height before they can fly.

Physical Development

- Ask children to join in with the actions and sounds in the story as you read – yawn and stretch, boing, boing, boing, calling "Kittiwake" "Kittiwake".

Creative Development

- Use the sunrise scene to talk about sunrises and the colours they reveal. Show pictures of sunrises and ask children to paint a picture of a sunrise using water-based paints that will merge into each other, choosing their own colours.
- Bug Crafts – make a spider using a pom-pom and pipe cleaners; or a bug using plasticine.

Welsh Language Development

- Introduce the Welsh for Curious 'Chwilfrydig' and basic question words:

What? / Beth? Why? / Pam? Who? / Pwy?

Where? / Ble? When? / Pa bryd? How? / Sut?



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Continued ...

More Questions to ask...

How many birds and animals who live in burrows can you name?

Answers: Amongst others... Puffins, Manx-Shearwaters, Rabbits, Mice, Bugs, Spiders, Moles, Badgers, Meerkats, Hamsters, Gerbils.

What other animals and birds can you find in the book - can you name them?

Answers: Gannets, Seagulls (Lesser Black Backed, Greater Black Backed, Herring), Manx Shearwaters (and their chicks), Storm Petrels, Worms, Beetles, Spiders, Guillemots, Rabbits, Kittiwakes, Common Dolphins.

What colour is a Manx Shearwater chick?

Answer: Grey

Did you Know?

Puffins and Manx Shearwaters choose to live on Islands because their underground burrows are safer there.

Many islands do not have any ground predators like Rats and Foxes so the seabirds' eggs and chicks are safe from harm.



Vocabulary



Adventure

Curious



Clumsy

Cliff

Tunnel



Centre

Deep

Find out more:

Visit Some Real Seabird Burrows!

See the amazing networks of burrows on the **Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales's Skomer and Skokholm Islands** by paying them a visit - and if you book an overnight stay you'll experience the amazing night time spectacle of thousands of Manx Shearwaters returning to their burrows.

www.welshwildlife.org

BBC Nature - The BBC Nature site has some great short videos about puffins and their underground burrows:

www.bbc.co.uk/nature/life/Atlantic_Puffin

RSPB - Take a trip to the spectacular Gannet Colony on Grassholm and see thousands of other seabirds on Ramsey Island. www.rspb.org.uk

Underground Adventures

Why not visit a cave complex like the National Showcaves in the Brecon Beacons National Park?

www.showcaves.co.uk