

Five ideas for things to do at half-term in Edinburgh

Autumn themed activities are set to ensure kids have fun in the forest this half-term at Dalkeith Country Park.

Taking place between Monday 16 and Thursday 19 October, youngsters will be able to try their hand at a variety of activities delivered by the Park's Ranger.



Children can build their very own dens using natural materials found in the woods while learning more about hibernation. There will also be bird feeder making sessions and Autumn art challenges.

Julie Merrilees, Visitor Services Manager at Dalkeith Country Park, said: "We have based our half-term programme of activities around the beauty of the woodlands in Autumn. It's a wonderful time to visit the Park, with spectacular scenery.

"Our activities will encourage youngsters to design dens and art using a wide range of materials from pine cones to leaves and sticks while teaching them about why the season is important to the abundance of wildlife living in the Park."

Families can also take part in a free scavenger hunt which is taking place in Fort Douglas playground throughout the mid-term break.

Fun in the Forest takes place between 2pm and 3pm each day and costs £3 per child, per day. Booking is essential and places can be secured by calling 0131 654 1666 or emailing dalkeithranger@buccleuch.com. Suitable for children aged five and over and all children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more info on what's on at the Park, visit

www.dalkeithcountrypark.co.uk and www.restorationyard.com or check out the Park's social media channels: Facebook @DalkeithCountryPark, Twitter @RestorationDCP, and Instagram @Restorationyarddcp.



3 October – 30 October 2017 at Royal Yacht Britannia

Looking to entertain the kids? Come and spot our cuddly corgis hiding around *Britannia*. Clarence the corgi is back and the whole family can join in so keep a look out and, at the end of your tour, receive a badge and enter our prize draw to be in with a chance of winning a small prize.

Don't forget to upload a selfie with our cuddly corgis as we will be running our #CorgiSelfie competition to find the best picture. Pop your picture on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and you could be in with a chance of winning a box of our delicious *Britannia* fudge.

[Book tickets here.](#)

Constable Constructors!

Children of all ages are invited along to the Scottish National Gallery during the half-term holiday to help construct a full-size masterpiece from LEGO® bricks.

Together with Bright Bricks, the UK's only LEGO® Certified Professional building company, they have calculated how to build, using LEGO® bricks, John Constable's masterpiece Salisbury Cathedral from the Meadows.

Throughout the day, visitors to the Scottish National Gallery will be able to create their own unique section of this painting, and thereby contribute to a larger-than-life masterpiece composed entirely of LEGO® bricks!

- Wednesday 18 October, 10am-5pm at the Scottish National

Gallery

[Details here](#)



When YOU Were Young

A fun, photography and living memory workshop for all the family! Little ones can explore what life was like for their grown-ups, and recreate memories to keep forever.

- Thursday 19 and Friday 20 October, 2-4pm at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery

[Details here](#)

This October half-term, families can enjoy a host of fun activities across the official residences of Her Majesty The Queen in London, Windsor but especially Edinburgh, from 3D design and animation workshops for older children to music recitals and storytelling for little ones.

Palace of Holyroodhouse

The Big Draw

Monday, 16 – Friday, 20 October, 12:00–15:00

Arts-and-crafts and object-handling activities will encourage children to explore what life was like at the Palace hundreds of years ago, when it was home to Mary, Queen of Scots and Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Recitals for Wrigglers

Sunday, 22 October, 12:00–12:40

Young children can roam around, dance and enjoy classical music and popular nursery rhymes in this family recital in the Palace's spectacular Great Gallery.