**The journey back to nursery or school with Edinburgh Bear**

In Edinburgh, children who are under 5 are invited to join in a City-wide bear hunt adventure with Edinburgh Bear. Activities and resources will be shared each week over a six-week period via a dedicated bear hunt website as a starter to get children thinking about the journey back to nursery or their new school.

[www.bearhuntedinburgh.wordpress.com](http://www.bearhuntedinburgh.wordpress.com) goes live on 18/5/20

**Week 1 Are you ready for a bear hunt?**

The journey begins.

Share the well-loved story of ‘We’re all going on a bear hunt’ by Michael Rosen using your own book or digital resources; videos re-telling the story shared by Early Years staff as well as a live reading of the story with Edinburgh City Library Service.

Choose your own bear for the journey…and find a resting place for bear in a window (in between adventures) so it can keep an eye out for other bear hunters!

Ask any keen knitters in your family to knit a bear for their window to add to the bear hunt excitement.

**Week 2 The bear hunt begins!**

How can you make your own bear hunt on a big or small scale? Share some ideas for beginning to create your own bear hunt, indoors or out; growing cress for grass, making squidgy mud bags, cotton wool snow…or heading out with bear to see what you can collect in the garden or community around you.

Ask a grown up to help you use technology to take and upload photos or drawings of any other bears or things you see on your travels.

**Week 3 Splish, splash we’re making a bash!**

Think about making the sounds we can hear along the way, either in the story or on your own bear hunt. How can you make the sound of squidging through a muddy puddle, what can you use to make the wind? Are there sounds that you can hear on your own journey? Can you record and upload the sounds to the website.

**Week 4 We’re all going on a school hunt!**

Take your bear on the journey to your new school; what will you need to take with you, what will you carry it in and what can you see on the way?

Go to the website to get some ideas on how to share their journey to school; making a journey stick or drawing a story map to help you say what they see or hear on the way.

Leave a sign at the nursery or school gate that you have visited – tie a ribbon with your name on, weave a leaf or something you have found as your calling card.

**Week 5 Bear needs a hug!**

Going on an adventure is not only exciting; sometimes it can be a bit scary too and it might bring up a lot of questions! Take a moment with your bear to think about what you might be feeling about going back to school or nursery. What tools do you and bear have in your tool box to help you manage those feelings? Who is in your back up team and what can they do to help?

**Week 6 As the bear hunt comes to an end, your journey is just beginning!**

How can you share your bear hunt adventure? Can you make a picture, model, collection, photo story or map to share with your nursery or new school? You can take it with you when you go back or upload photos to your nursery or new school website.

Can you use your story to make new friends? What will you tell them about your adventure? Keep making the journey to nursery or school and collect different sights and sounds or go on some new bear adventures to share.

Each week Edinburgh Bear will share details of the activities for you to join in and have fun! [www.bearhuntedinburgh.wordpress.com](http://www.bearhuntedinburgh.wordpress.com) starting Monday 18th May 2020.

