



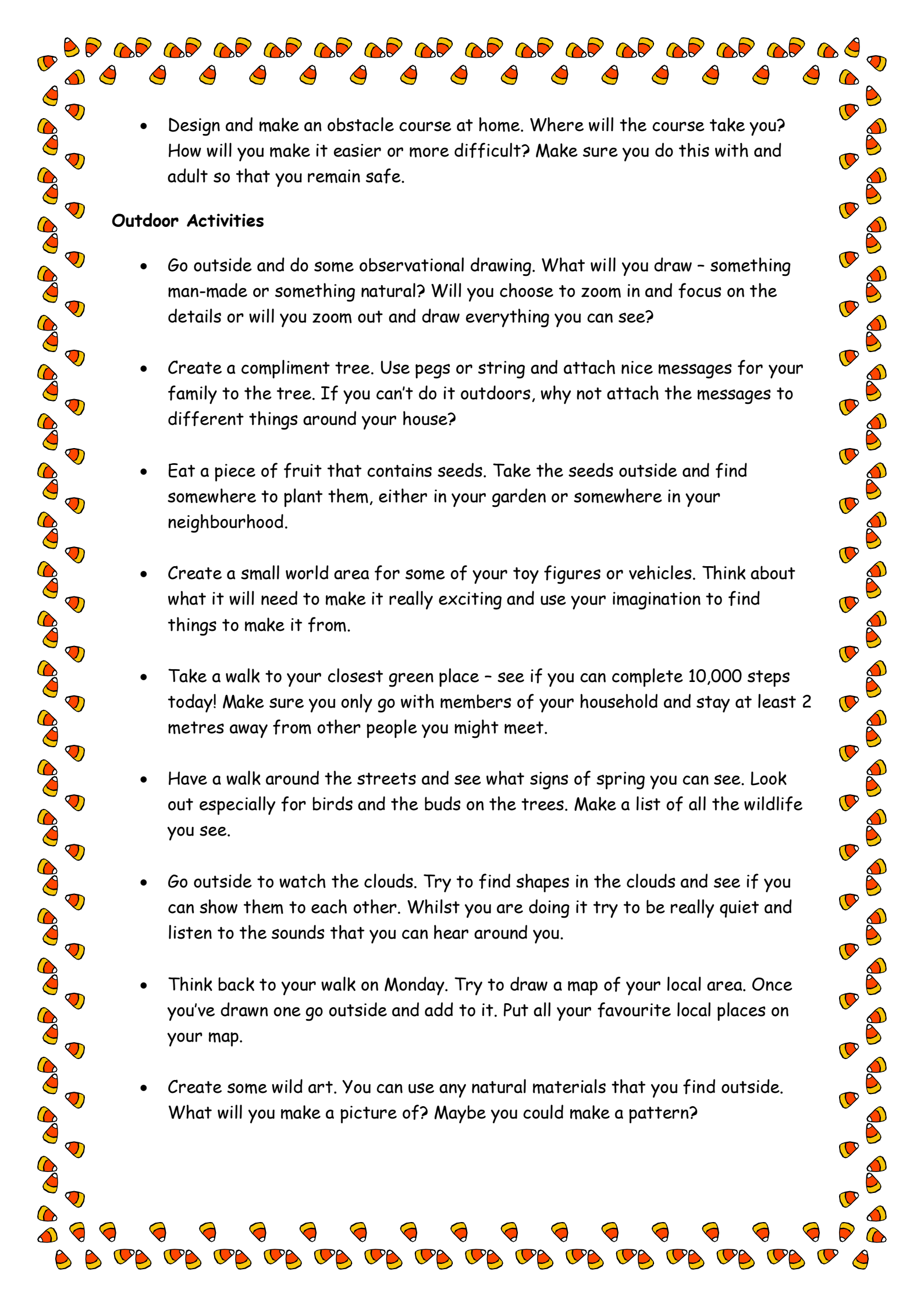
## Speaking and Listening activities

Here are some family learning activities, which you can do with all of your children, regardless of their age.

These activities are great in expanding your child's vocabulary development as well as speaking and listening skills. The activities promote quality time together as well as supporting children who have Speech and Language needs.

### **Indoor Activities:**

- Talk about your family's history. Think about aunts and uncles, grandmas and granddads, great grandmas and great-granddads. Create a family tree. Look through old photographs. Create individual or family portraits.
- Do an alphabet hunt: find 26 different items in your house, one for each letter of the alphabet. For example, an apple for A.
- Design and make your own board game. You'll need to think about a board, challenges and questions, counters, a spinner/dice and of course, the rules. Once you've made it, play it together.
- Plan and cook a meal together. You could learn a new recipe from a family member or try a new one from a recipe book or an online recipe. Make sure you cook with an adult so that you are safe.
- Create an indoor treasure hunt using clues and ask another member of the family to follow the clues to find the treasure. What will your treasure be?
- Choose a song that everyone in your family loves. Work together to create a dance routine for the song. You could even make a video of it!
- Design and make some puppets and create a puppet show for your family. You could use socks to make sock puppets or you could cut out some characters from some cardboard from your recycling box and stick them onto sticks (these would make excellent shadow puppets, too).
- Collect different items from around your house and group them by the material they are made of. What sort of things can you find that are plastic? Metal? Fabric? Wood?
- Use anything in your house to make a model of a famous place in the world. You could use things from your recycling box, Lego or any other construction toy.

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- Design and make an obstacle course at home. Where will the course take you? How will you make it easier or more difficult? Make sure you do this with an adult so that you remain safe.

### Outdoor Activities

- Go outside and do some observational drawing. What will you draw - something man-made or something natural? Will you choose to zoom in and focus on the details or will you zoom out and draw everything you can see?
- Create a compliment tree. Use pegs or string and attach nice messages for your family to the tree. If you can't do it outdoors, why not attach the messages to different things around your house?
- Eat a piece of fruit that contains seeds. Take the seeds outside and find somewhere to plant them, either in your garden or somewhere in your neighbourhood.
- Create a small world area for some of your toy figures or vehicles. Think about what it will need to make it really exciting and use your imagination to find things to make it from.
- Take a walk to your closest green place - see if you can complete 10,000 steps today! Make sure you only go with members of your household and stay at least 2 metres away from other people you might meet.
- Have a walk around the streets and see what signs of spring you can see. Look out especially for birds and the buds on the trees. Make a list of all the wildlife you see.
- Go outside to watch the clouds. Try to find shapes in the clouds and see if you can show them to each other. Whilst you are doing it try to be really quiet and listen to the sounds that you can hear around you.
- Think back to your walk on Monday. Try to draw a map of your local area. Once you've drawn one go outside and add to it. Put all your favourite local places on your map.
- Create some wild art. You can use any natural materials that you find outside. What will you make a picture of? Maybe you could make a pattern?