

School Badge Challenge and Children's University Australia



Children's University Australia provides extra-curricular learning opportunities to children aged between 7 and 14 years old, and volunteer opportunities for 15-18 year olds; the aim being to engage children in learning in its broadest sense and to provide the scaffolding for children to develop self-efficacy, confidence and aspirations.

The Children's University concept is relatively simple: it recognises superior educational experiences for children outside of school and acknowledges their achievements through the award of formal certificates. The model leverages local educational and learning activity providers, including sports clubs, museums, galleries, and school clubs. A strong emphasis is placed on acknowledging the value of accessing the wide range of learning experiences and environments in which children engage. These learning activities must have a link in some way to higher learning, for example, participation in a football club linking to physiotherapy, sports science or even personal training.

Children's University is child directed; in that each child chooses to be involved and picks what they would like to participate in. Children are encouraged to explore and discover new ideas, concepts and experiences. The activities are practical, fun based and voluntary and could range from after-school clubs, (restricted Learning Destinations), to museums, community activities, theatres, in parks and galleries, at television stations... the list is endless!

Each child is issued with a Children's University Passport to Learning in which the hours of each activity are recorded. Credits are accumulated, and when they reach the hours needed to graduate from the Children's University, children are awarded with certificates at a formal graduation ceremony held in high profile locations, such as Bonython Hall at the University of Adelaide. Graduation levels are gold, silver and bronze and range from Diploma to Doctorate.

A selection of School Badge Challenges are validated by Children's University Australia (CUA). CUA members can count hours spent on the challenges marked with the CUA logo in their CUA Passports to Learning. Successful completion of the challenges will be endorsed by the school's CUA coordinator.

For more information about Children's University Australia please visit:
www.childrensuniversity.com.au

Community Spirit

1. CELEBRITY CONTACT



Write to a celebrity of your choice, introduce yourself, your reason for writing and seeking out answers to questions posed. (Please show your teacher a draft before sending).



1 hour

Initials

T

2. COMMUNITY RESEARCH



Research how your suburb received its name and explore the history of the district. Can you find out what your street is named after?



1 hour

Initials

T

3. COMMUNITY REPORT



Write a brief report on the festivals, events, main facilities or clubs you can attend in your community.



1 hour

Initials

T

4. OUR SCHOOL HISTORY



When was it built? Student numbers? School logo and what does it mean? Presentation can be a PowerPoint document.



1 hour

Initials

T

5. JOINING A CLUB



The challenge is to belong to a club or organisation for a period of no less than 6 months.

Initials

P

6. SCHOOL STUDENT COMMITTEES



You need to belong to at least one school committee.

Initials

T

7. SURPRISE LETTER BADGE



Imagine the joy of grandparents going to their letterbox and finding a letter telling them about what you've been doing, or inviting them around so you can interview them for your other badges. You have to write the letter, address the envelope and post it.



1 hour

Initials

P

8. MY NEIGHBOURHOOD



Research your neighbourhood and find out where the nearest post office, petrol station, police station, library, schools, shopping centre and deli are. Perhaps present it on a map and show other places of interest.



1 hour

Initials

T

Family

9. FAMILY TREE



Research your family tree and create your own representation of this.



Initials

P

10. FAMILY CREST AND NAME



Research your family crest and family name.



Initials

P

11. PAST TIMES INTERVIEW



Interview your grandparents or elderly friends. Find answers to 5 or more questions posed about their life experiences when they were young, ie. working life, school, leisure time, games played, etc.



Initials

P

12. FAMILY GAMES



Give evidence of playing 5 or more different games with family members.

Initials

P

13. THE ORGANISER



You are responsible to improve the organisation of either the kitchen pantry or linen cupboard.

Initials

P

14. TREASURE CHEST



Create a PowerPoint presentation to show the class five or more special things that mean something to you.



Initials

T

15. HOUSE SKETCHING



Using any materials such as paint, coloured pencils or crayons sketch the front of your house.



Initials

T

16. JIGSAW



Either by yourself or with a family member complete a 500-or-more piece jigsaw puzzle. (Supply a photo if possible.)

Initials

P

Life Skills

26. GROW A VEGETABLE



Samples of the food need to be shown to the class when it is ready for consumption.



Initials

P

27. GROW FROM A SEED



Grow a flower, wheat or some other seed. Bring it to the classroom to share.



Initials

T

28. SOCIAL OUTING



Plan a social outing with your family. Select the venue and enquire about cost. Organise the day and plan items needed to take etc. Report back to teacher what you have organised.



Initials

P

29. PUBLIC SPEAKING



Pick a topic of your own choice then prepare, plan and present it to the class. A roster may be provided so you know when your turn will be.



Initials

T

30. IRONING



Learn how to iron at least 5 different articles of clothing.



CAUTION: PARENTAL SUPERVISION REQUIRED.

Initials

P

31. TABLE SETTING



Set the table in the correct manner for a formal dinner including a centrepiece. Cutlery, crockery and glassware are to be in the correct position. Take a photo if possible.



Initials

P

32. MAIN COURSE



Prepare a main course for the family with parental assistance, take a leading role in the preparation and cooking of the meal. Share what you made with the teacher.



Initials

P

33. THREE-COURSE MEAL



The big challenge. Using your table setting, with parent assistance select, prepare and cook a three-course meal of soup, main course and dessert.



Initials

P

Exploring Our World

60. SOLAR SYSTEM



Create a model of the Solar System using any materials; it needs to be reasonably accurate to represent the size of the planets in relation to each other and distance away from the sun.



3 hours

Initials

T

61. ENDANGERED ANIMAL



Raise awareness of an endangered animal. This can be any animal on the endangered list. You do this by designing a poster, collage, PowerPoint, or in any other creative way.



2 hours

Initials

T

62. WORLD LIFESTYLES



The lifestyle of another country. You need to demonstrate a dance which has its origins in another culture.



1 hour

Initials

T

63. TRAVEL INTERVIEW



Interview someone who has been overseas. Create at least 8 questions and share the answers with the class. A map of the areas visited should also be presented.



1 hour

Initials

T

64. WORLD GAMES



Research and present to the class a game that is played in another part of the world.



1 hour

Initials

T

65. CULTURAL MEAL BADGE



You are to assist your parents preparing a meal from a different culture, eg. Chinese, Mexican, Thai.



1 hour

Initials

P

66. TOY ON HOLIDAY



Select one cuddly toy or similar item and take with you on your next holiday or outing. Take at least 5 photos which includes images of your toy enjoying its new environment.



1 hour

Initials

P

67. TRANSPORT



You need to organize a family trip to the city on public transport. Check the timetable or phone the State Transport Authority.



1 hour

Initials

T

Sports & Outdoors

71. SPORTS & OUTDOORS 1



Learn how to erect a tent, parental supervision allowed.



Initials

T

72. SPORTS & OUTDOORS 2



You have been involved in assisting with laying a sprinkling system within the lawn or garden area.

Initials

T

73. SPORTS & OUTDOORS 3



Join a sporting team that is in a competition of some description.

Initials

T

74. BIKE RIDE



Join a family member and go on a bike ride which is longer than 2km.

Initials

T

75. SHED CLEAN



Your assistance is required to clean up the shed.
Parental supervision is a must.

Initials

P

76. NATURAL OBJECTS



You need to make a collage of natural or unnatural objects that begin with each letter of the alphabet.



Initials

T

77. BUSHWALK



You need to complete a bushwalk with family members at a location of your choice.

Initials

P

78. GARDENING



You need to take an active role in weeding or adding new plants to your garden.

Initials

T

Science & Technology

91. PHOTOGRAPHY



Make your own photo album of your favourite shots. Photos could follow a theme, eg. family, nature, sports, pollution or the environment.



Initials

P

92. COMPUTER 1



Create an invitation to a theme party.



Initials

T

93. COMPUTER 2



Create a PowerPoint presentation of your family.



Initials

P

94. KITE MAKING



Design a kite from any materials and make it fly.



Initials

T

95. CARD STACK



How high can you go? Make a card stack balancing the cards on top and leaning against each other to at least 30cm. Be careful not to sneeze!

Initials

P

96. SPECTACULAR SCIENCE



Demonstrate a science experiment and explain to the class the science behind it.



Initials

T

97. CREATE A PHOTO STORY



Using Photo Story or a similar programme, develop a series of ten photos around a theme, with a musical backing.



Initials

T

98. CONSTRUCT A HOUSE



Using any materials you like design and construct a model house.



Initials

T

Arts

113. CLAY MODELLING



Using clay, create your own model.

Initials P
1 hour

114. POET AWARD



Learn off by heart a poem of your choice to recite to the class. It must have 50 words or more.

Initials T
1 hour

115. HAIRDRESSER



Become a stylist and come to school with your hair in 5 different styles.

Initials T

116. DANCE ROUTINE



Time to dance! Either by yourself or with someone else, make up a creative dance routine and entertain the class.

Initials T
1 hour

117. SHADOW PUPPET



This may require some research to create the following images that are projected onto a wall using a backlit source. A swan, a dog, a butterfly and 2 of your choice.

Initials T
1 hour

118. STAND-UP COMEDIAN



Create your own performance as a class stand-up comedian telling stories or jokes to entertain the class.

Initials T

119. CARPENTER



You take an active role in making an object out of wood. Evidence of nails or screws in assembly needs to be seen.

Initials T

120. JUGGLER



Time to be a circus performer. Juggle three balls for a period of 10 seconds.

Initials T
1 hour