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School is nearly out, and summer is right around the corner! Long days, no homework, and the chance to play, explore, and rest—there's so much to look forward to. But when the routines of school disappear, things can start to feel a little wobbly. Without the usual structure, it's easy to feel a bit lost.

This workbook is here to help keep your summer full of fun, calm, and connection. You're not on your own—there's support, ideas, and activities waiting for you on every page.

The IThrive Hub Team





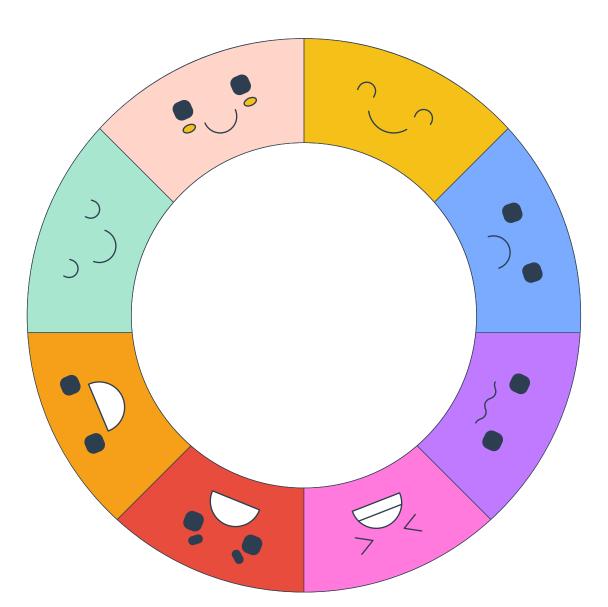
Feelings Check-In



How Are You Feeling Today?

Sometimes feelings are loud like a thunderstorm. Sometimes they're quiet like a feather. All feelings are okay. Let's find out what yours are doing today!

Circle or color all the faces that match how you're feeling right now.



Summer Routines



Summer can feel big and open—and that can be amazing and a little overwhelming. A simple routine can help your day feel steady, calm, and fun.

My Summer Day Planner

Cut, draw, or write what your ideal summer day could look like. You don't need to plan every minute—just the big pieces that help you feel your best.

On the next page, you'll find a blank Summer Day Planner you can fill in any way you like. You can draw pictures, write words, or use colors to plan your day.

Here are a few ideas to help you get started:

- 3 Start the day calm stretching, deep breathing, soft music
- Pick a snack & meal time choose times that work for your family
- Creative time drawing, crafts, building, storytelling
- Move your body outside play, dancing, short walks
- E Quiet moments reading, puzzles, cozy corners
- Time to connect play with a friend, help someone, check in with a grown-up
- Wind-down routine bath, favorite book, soft lights, bedtime chat

You don't have to do everything—just choose the parts that help your day feel good.

Calm-Down Corner



Big Feelings Happen

Sometimes we feel too full. Too mad, too sad, too worried, or too wiggly. That's okay. All feelings are allowed. When they start to take over, we can pause, breathe, and take care of ourselves.

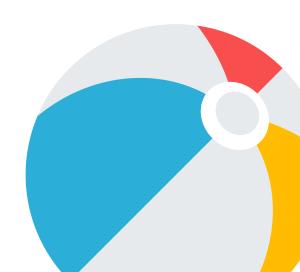
Build Your Calm-Down Corner

You don't need a fancy space. A cozy chair, a pillow on the floor, a corner of your room—anywhere can be your calm-down spot.

Here are some things you might keep nearby:

- A soft toy or blanket
- A favorite book
- Headphones for quiet music
- Paper and crayons
- A pinwheel or straw for slow breathing
- Notes that remind you: "I'm safe," "I'm strong," or "This feeling will pass"





Try One of These Calming Tools



Balloon Breathing

Take a big breath in. Fill your belly like a balloon. Slowly let it out like the balloon is deflating. Repeat 3 times.

Sound Check

Pause. Listen. Name 3 sounds you can hear right now.

9 5-4-3-2-1 Grounding

Name:

- 5 things you can see
- 4 things you can touch
- 3 things you can hear
- 2 things you can smell
- 1 thing you can taste

Draw It Out

Draw how your feeling looks. Then draw something that helps it shrink, soften, or float away.



Joy Jars



Summer brings new adventures and moments to treasure.

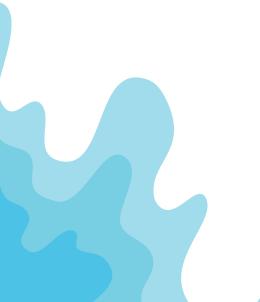
Finding joy in everyday things helps your happiness grow.

Showing gratitude deepens the good feelings and makes every day brighter. This summer, celebrate joy and gratitude to make your holidays truly special.

Find a jar, box, or envelope. Each day, add a note, picture, or memory of something that made you smile. It can be small—like a yummy snack or a funny moment.

Try This:

- Write or draw one good thing each day
- Decorate your jar with stickers or drawings
- Read your notes when you're having a tough day





Connection Builders

Feeling close to others helps us feel safe, seen, and supported. These simple games and prompts are made to spark laughter, sharing, and stronger bonds with the people around you.

Getting Closer Game

Cut out or choose a question from the list below and take turns answering them with a friend or grown-up.

- "What made you laugh recently?"
- "If you could have any superpower, what would it be?"
- "What's your favorite way to be cheered up?"
- "What does being a good friend mean to you?"
- " "What's a fun memory we share?"

Kindness Challenge

- Make a card for someone
- Give 3 compliments today
- Help with a chore without being asked
- Invite someone to join your game
- Write down 5 nice things about someone and give it to them



Creative Time



Sometimes feelings are easier to show with pictures, stories, or colors than with words. These activities give your imagination space to play, explore, and speak in its own way.

Story Starter: My Adventure Day

Write or draw a story that starts like this:

"One morning, I woke up and the whole world felt a little brighter. I put on my shoes and walked outside, not knowing what adventure I'd find..."



Outside Adventures

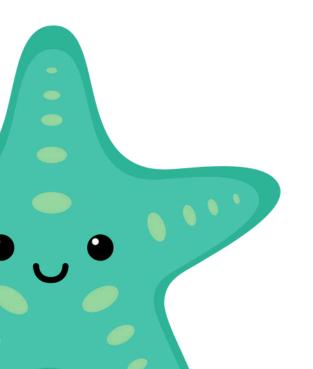


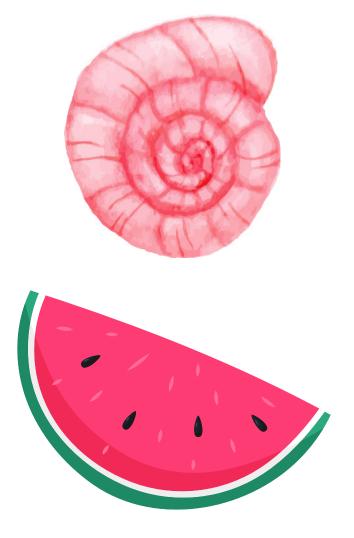
Nature is full of calm, color, and surprise—and it's always waiting for you. These outdoor activities help you feel more grounded, curious, and connected to the world around you.

Nature Treasure Hunt

Take this list outside and see what you can find:

- □ Something green
- □ A smooth rock
- ☐ A sound that makes you smile
- ☐ A smell you like
- ☐ A bug or bird
- ☐ A cloud with a fun shape





Staying active



Summer is a great time to add some sports and active games into your outdoor adventures! Staying active can make your emotions feel more manageable and reduce any stress.

Why not try some of these ideas?

- Ask a friend or family member to join you in playing an active game,
 like football or hopscotch
- See what games you can play on your own football, cycling, swimming don't always need more than one person.
- Try a new sport! You can use the NHS quiz to find out what sport is right for you - https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/activities/disney-sports-quiz/
- Try playing these 10 minute shakeup games with friends and family for short bursts of activity - https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/activities/10-minute-shake-up/
- You can use https://letskeepboltonmoving.co.uk/ to find activities in your area as well as more information about staying active.





When Things Feel Tough

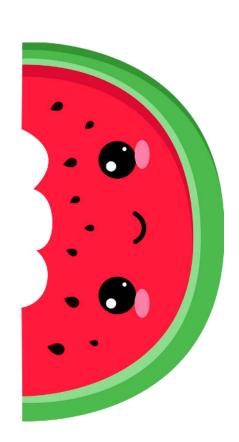


Some Days Feel Heavy

You might feel angry, worried, lonely, or nothing at all. That's okay. You're not the only one. You don't have to figure it out alone.

What Helps Me?

- Ask for a hug
- Go to your Calm-Down Corner
- Say what you need out loud:
 - _"I feel ____ and I need ___."
- Squeeze something soft or punch a pillow
- Write it down or draw it out
- Take five deep belly breaths



People I Can Talk To

(Write or draw someone you can go to when you need help.)

- 器 Grown-ups I trust:
- 👫 Friends who care:
- Helpers I can call (school, doctor, support line):

Resources & Support



Bolton Council, offers free fun activities and hot meals to children who get free school meals. It runs for at least 4 hours a day, 4 days a week, over 4 weeks in summer. Families can book places by selecting their postcode and following the booking steps—just remember to use your unique HAF code to show you're eligible. If you don't have a HAF code, there are still free sessions and food available for all school-aged children through Bolton's Play & Youth Service and other summer events across the borough.

Find out more by visiting https://www.bolton.gov.uk/HAF

School Transition Project



Bolton Together's School Transition project supports children moving from primary to secondary school by building confidence, resilience, and friendships. Working with Urban Outreach and Breaking Barriers, the project offers tailored group and one-to-one support for both SEND and non-SEND children, along with guidance for parents and carers. To refer your child, visit: www.bolton-together.org.uk.

BLGC Summer Drop-Ins

The BLGC Summer THRIVE Reset is a free summer wellbeing programme designed to help young people relax, recharge, and build resilience.

Through fun activities like breathing exercises, creative projects, mini challenges, and games, it offers support without pressure. Participants also receive free meals, wellbeing kits, and a certificate when they complete the programme—making summer a time to take care of YOU.



Youth Against Violence



Bolton Together has launched the Youth Against Violence. In collaboration with Urban Outreach, The Flowhesion Foundation, and BSCA, the program supports 12–17-year-olds in Halliwell and Breightmet through mentoring and activities aimed at promoting positive choices and reducing risks. More information can be found at: bolton-together.org.uk/youth-against-violence.

Parenting, especially with a child facing mental health challenges, can be tough. Bolton Together offers a Parent Peer Support service to help parents feel heard and connected. Participants can join group sessions and wellbeing activities like mindfulness, sharing experiences and accessing helpful resources. For more information, view the overview and complete the referral form to get involved - https://boltontogether.org.uk/parent-peer-support-

referral/

Parent Peer Support



ithrive@boitontogether.org.uk

Together





is the perfect way to unwind and connect with your community all season long. With fun games, delicious food, creative crafts, and a relaxing wellbeing walk, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Whether you're looking to get active, express your creativity, or simply spend quality time with others, Summer Recharge offers a welcoming space to refresh and recharge. Join us across the summer for uplifting activities that feed the body, mind, and spirit.





Urban Outreach's School Transition
Support is a four-week programme
helping young people build
confidence and resilience as they
move to secondary school. Each
session focuses on key themes like
facing change, embracing new
opportunities, building friendships,
and developing a growth mindset.





BREAKINGBARRIERS NORTHWEST

Breaking Barriers is offering a range of inclusive activities and support for families over the summer. Their Sensory Room at The Market Place is open for walk-ins from 10am to 3pm during the holidays, costing just £3.50 per child for all-day access, with families welcome to come and go as they please. The Sensory Garden and Snack Shack, located on The Patio (right of the main entrance), are open daily and free for families to enjoy. The Charity Shop on the Upper Ground Floor is also open daily from 10am to 3pm, serving drinks and homemade cakes in a welcoming space. For more details and a full list of events, visit: **Breaking Barriers Events Calendar**.



The Bolton Start Well Family Hub Guide is a great resource for families looking for activities, support, and services over the summer holidays. It includes details of what's on at local Family Hubs, from play sessions to parenting support, helping families stay connected and supported throughout the break. Access the full summer programme here: **Bolton Start Well Family Hubs** Programme.







Safe4Summer

Safe4Summer is an annual partnership campaign launched on 2 June 2025, aimed at keeping young people across Greater Manchester safe during the summer months.

Led by Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, Greater Manchester Police, local councils, and other partners, the campaign focuses on education, engagement, and promoting social responsibility.

This summer's priorities include tackling anti-social behaviour through targeted interventions and fun local activities, encouraging communities to report ASB, raising awareness of its consequences, promoting water safety, and reducing incidents of deliberate fires and hoax emergency calls.

Safe4Summer supports both young people and their families with key safety messages to ensure a safer summer for all.

> Discover more by visiting https://www.manchesterfire.gov.uk/yoursafety/campaigns/safe4summer/





iThrive is not a crisis service, so if you feel you or someone else is at risk you can access the following services:

Childline for children and young people under 0800 1111

Samaritans 116 123

Text "SHOUT" to 85258

GMMH 24/7 helpline 0800 953 0285

NHS 111 to enquire about mental health or risk concerns.

Contact 999 or attend your local A & E service if you are in urgent need of medical treatment.



Beyond Summer How to refer to IThrive

If you feel like you may need some more structured support, you can refer into the IThrive service at the link here: https://boltontogether.org.uk/ithrive-2-19-years-referral-form/

You can complete a referral yourself, with the help of a trusted adult (parent/carer, teacher etc), or someone can complete one on your behalf with your consent and help to make sure we know what support you would like.