



EARLY YEARS ACTIVITIES

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A-WOOF!

COMIC
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RED
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DAY

Hey Duggee's here for some Red Nose Day fun and learning!

Duggee is a big, lovable dog and leader of the Squirrels – Roly the hippopotamus, Norrie the mouse, Happy the crocodile, Tag the rhinoceros and Betty the octopus – who earn badges for learning new skills.

Now, on Friday 20 March, your children have a chance to earn their Fundraising Badge with Duggee!

We've got everything you need to throw a themed fundraising party at comicrelief.com/early-years – from posters and party invitations to stickers and certificates. Let's take ourselves funny for money and turn simple acts of silliness into serious goodness.

Why not make the most of the excitement and get the children learning along with Duggee too? In this booklet, you'll find lots of ideas for activities designed to support your little Squirrels' communication skills, physical development, and personal, social and emotional development. They're all linked to episodes of Hey Duggee for added fun and inspiration.

So, gather your Squirrels together and get ready for some seriously silly fun, fundraising and learning!



FUNDRAISING FUN:

Prepare for fun and get ready to party with Duggee and the Squirrels as you raise money this Red Nose Day!

1 Start planning

Visit the Comic Relief website and check out our brilliant Hey Duggee party resources: comicrelief.com/early-years

You'll find all sorts of great ideas and resources: activity sheets to use with the children, bunting, posters, party invitations, cake labels and certificates, plus your opportunity to buy a Hey Duggee fundraising pack!

2 Invite everyone

Download our party invitations, fill in details of your plans, and share them with parents, carers and friends.

Get the date in everyone's diaries – **Friday 20 March**.

3 Get party ready

Watch episodes of Hey Duggee with the children and use the learning activities in this pack to build excitement for the big day!

Decorate your setting with bunting, posters, stickers and the children's artwork. Remember to get them involved in preparations – this is a great opportunity for teamwork.

4 Ready, steady, bake!

Whip up some brilliant bakes to raffle off or sell. You'll find a recipe for Duggee biscuits in this booklet and Hey Duggee cake labels at comicrelief.com/early-years

Share your fabulous biscuits (or your baking disasters!) on social media and tag us **@comicrelief #RedNoseDay**

5 Party!

Have a fantastic day together celebrating and raising money for Red Nose Day!

You could:

- Kick things off with an episode of Hey Duggee! How about The Party Badge (series 2, episode 47), available on **BBC iPlayer**.
- Ask for donations for the children to come dressed up for the day. Make sure the adults get involved – the sillier, the better!
- Play some old-school party games – who doesn't love pass-the-parcel and musical statues?
- Enjoy party music and dancing.
- Sell your baked goods to raise money.

6 Celebrate with a Hey Duggee Fundraising Badge

Celebrate the children's fundraising success by awarding them their very own Hey Duggee Fundraising Badge!

You can download sticker badges at comicrelief.com/early-years

Want something fancier? You can buy your very own Hey Duggee fundraising pack at comicrelief.com/shop

We also have thank you posters and certificates for you to shout about your fundraising brilliance.

Well done, Squirrels!

WHAT TICKLES YOU?

It's Red Nose Day – time to have a laugh together! There's no better way to foster children's wellbeing, strengthen relationships and support storytelling.

- 1 Watch Duggee and the Squirrels in **The Laughter Badge** (series 5, episode 19) on **BBC iPlayer**.
From sensible chuckles and nervous giggles to uncontrollable, infectious laughter – once you start, it's hard to stop!
- 2 Ask the children if they can remember Duggee's different laughs:
 - The Sensible Chuckle
 - The Cackle
 - The Raspberry
 - The Nervous Giggle
 - The Baby Waker
 - The UncontrollableAs a reminder, why not demonstrate the laughs yourself? Alternatively, watch that section of the video again (around 1:55 to 2:50), stopping it to give the children chance to try the different laughs together. Which is their favourite? What makes them laugh the most?
- 3 This year, Red Nose Day is all about taking yourself funny for money – doing silly stuff to raise a laugh and raise some cash.
Lead the way by doing something daft to get the children laughing.

It doesn't matter whether it's a silly walk, a funny face, socks on your ears or standing on your head – the idea is to share the joy of silliness with the children.

Encourage them to take turns to do the same. How can they be silly to get you and their friends laughing? The dafter, the better!

Have a joke-telling session, where you and the children share your favourite jokes and riddles. Talk with the children about why different jokes are funny and help them start to understand the idea of word play.

Here are some Hey Duggee jokes to get you started.



What is Duggee's favourite type of pizza? **Pup-peroni**



What is Enid's favourite colour? **Purr-ple**



What is Norrie's favourite sport? **Mice-skating**



What is Happy's favourite card game? **Snap!**



What do the Squirrels call a fight? **A squarrel**

FUNDRAISING BADGE ACTIVITY

Hold your very own joke-a-thon, with the children collecting sponsorship for every joke they tell.

LET'S GET THE DANCING BUG!



Howdy doody doo, Squirrels! It's time to get dancing with Hey Duggee and the Hillbilly Bug Band.

1 Watch Duggee and the Squirrels making shapes in **The Dancing Bug** Badge (series 2, episode 13) on **BBC iPlayer**.

When Billy the Dancing Bug lands on Duggee's head, he can't stop dancing! And when Billy's band arrives, it's not long before the Squirrels are joining in.

2 To get the children moving, watch the video again and ask them to jump up and start dancing every time they hear music.

3 Play a game of "Billy the Dancing Bug Says..." with the children. Give movement instructions, for example jump, hop, skip, clap, spin round, wiggle, stand like a statue. The children should only perform the movement if you say, "Billy the Dancing Bug says..." .

As the children gain confidence, start giving two-part instructions, such as "Billy the Dancing Bug says jump up in the air and clap your hands".

4 Create a dance for the Big Bug Ball.

Either:

Help the children to learn the steps for the Big Bug Ball dance in the video, breaking it down into sections and starting slow. Words and actions below!

*If you want to dance, get in line,
Listen to our song and you'll be fine.
Step to the left, jump to the beat,
Clap your hands and shuffle your feet.
Step to the right, turn around,
Clap your hands and dance to our sound.*

*Step to the back, make like a chicken,
Cluck, cluck, cluck, and do some pecking.*

*Hop to the front, take a bow,
Clap your hands, you know how!*

Or:

Encourage the children to make up their own dance, focusing on imaginative movement rather than specific steps. You could suggest they work in pairs or groups, or ask them to pretend they're different characters from Hey Duggee.

Play the video again and get the children dancing along with the Squirrels!

FUNDRAISING BADGE ACTIVITY

**Why not make the Big Bug Ball dance part of your Hey Duggee party celebrations?
You could sell tickets to attend or take donations.**

TIME FOR TEAMWORK

Develop children's cooperation, problem-solving and communication skills as they learn about teamwork with Duggee and the Squirrels.

1 Watch Duggee and the Squirrels working together in **The Teamwork Badge** (series 2, episode 12) on **BBC iPlayer**.

When a huge box of bits and pieces is delivered to the Squirrel Club, Duggee and the Squirrels need to use teamwork to put it all together!

2 Talk with the children about what happens when the Squirrels go off to play and leave Duggee to try to fit the bits and pieces together on his own. Why do they think Duggee struggles?

Can they think of times when they have tried to do something on their own and have had to ask for help?

Remind the children what Duggee says about teamwork: **"If you want to help, you've got to work together!"**



FUNDRAISING BADGE ACTIVITY

If you're organising a nature walk to help the children earn their Fundraising Badge, why not get some of them involved in planning the activity? There's no better way for children to understand the power of teamwork than by helping to plan a fun event for a great cause. Visit comicrelief.com/early-years for our nature walk activity sheets.

3 Divide the children into groups and give each group their own delivery of 'bits and pieces' – for example, different types of building blocks, cups, recycled items like cardboard boxes and tubes, and soft foam blocks.

Explain that they need to work together like the Squirrels to build a tall tower. As they work, ask open-ended questions such as:

- "What makes a tower fall down?"
- "How can you make your tower more stable?"
- "Could you try a different shape?"

Remind the children to listen to each other and support one another as they plan and construct. Highlight and praise good teamwork.

At the end of the activity, ask the children to measure the towers using a non-standard measure like their hands, a piece of string or pencils. Who has built the tallest tower?

WHY ARE WE FUNDRAISING?



Use these talking points in the run-up to Red Nose Day to help the children understand why they are raising money.

1 Talk with the children about people who help them:

- Who helps you at home?
- Who helps you at nursery?
- Who has helped you so far today? What did they do?
- Can you think of other people who help (e.g. doctors, nurses, teachers, vets, lifeguards)?

2 Encourage the children to think about how they help other people:

- Do you help around the home?
- Do you help with younger sisters and brothers?
- Can you think of times you've helped your friends?

3 Explain to the children that there are lots of people around the world who need our help, perhaps because they don't have enough money for food, don't have a safe place to live, or are unwell. Explain what charities do and why we raise money for them.

4 Can the children name any charities? Can they remember fundraising activities you have organised in the past? Show them photographs and share memories.

5 Tell the children that you are going to be raising money for Red Nose Day. Explain how the money they raise will help make a difference to people in the UK and around the world. You can find out more here:

comicrelief.com/rednoseday

6 If you feel it's appropriate for your cohort, you could share some of Keren's story (on the next page) with the children.



MEET KEREN

Keren was born with disabilities and her parents struggled to help her. Now, thanks to support from Sense International Uganda, Keren has reached a milestone that once seemed impossible – going to school.

Keren's story

Keren lives in Uganda with her family. She was born with hydrocephalus (a condition that causes fluid to build up in the brain) and the blood disorder sickle cell disease. As a result, her hearing, sight and mobility are impaired, and she has chronic fatigue and persistent pain.

For the first few years of Keren's life, her parents, Hellen and Emmanuel, struggled. Keren's additional needs meant round-the-clock care. She couldn't sit or stand by herself and had challenges with communication. Frequent clinic and hospital visits put an emotional and financial strain on the family.



Sense International Uganda

Help came in the shape of Sense International Uganda, which is funded by Red Nose Day donations. The organisation specialises in early childhood development and helping children with disabilities.

Lydia, from Sense International Uganda, has been supporting Keren and her family for over four years, educating and guiding them in areas such as sign language and mobility. The charity provided Keren with a walker and a wheelchair, and thanks to Lydia's expertise she now goes to school – something Keren's parents never dreamed would happen.



“

I've trained them in different skills to support Keren in many areas, like sign language. Keren can now communicate sign to her parents, teachers and siblings.”

Lydia

Sense International Uganda



“

Sense International Uganda came in, they helped Keren to develop in that social life. She is always smiling. She's a loving girl and loves to play with other children.”

William

Keren's father

MAKE DUGGEE BISCUITS WITH



Recipe by April Carter



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INGREDIENTS (MAKES 12 BISCUITS)

For the cookies:

- 125g unsalted butter, softened
- 125g caster sugar
- 1 medium egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 250g plain flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking powder
- pinch of salt

For the decoration:

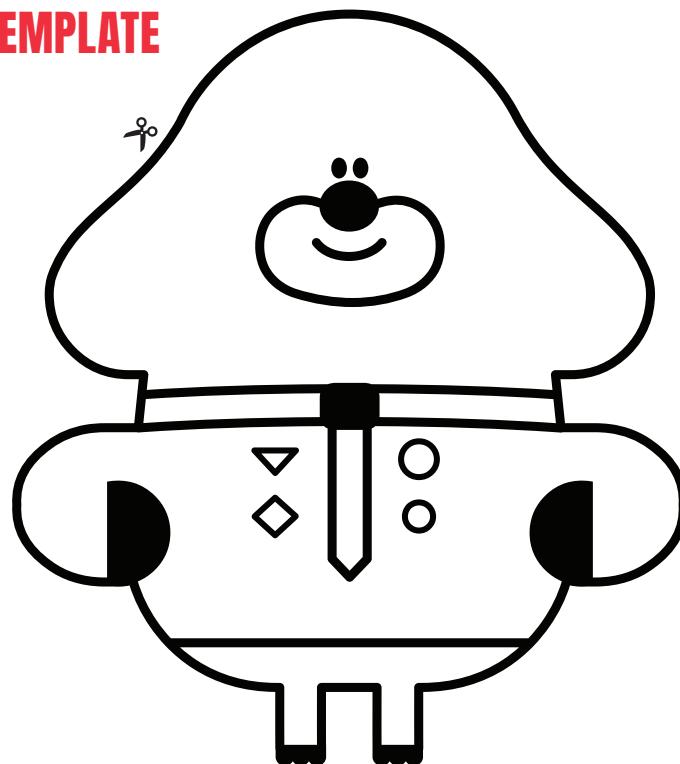
- small amounts of brown, light brown, black, dark pink and assorted colours of fondant for Duggee's different outfits
- icing sugar

METHOD

Make sure a grown up helps with the cutting out, preparation and baking.

1. Sieve together the flour, salt and baking powder and set aside. In a separate bowl, beat the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy. Add the egg and vanilla and beat again. Add the flour mixture to the butter mixture and mix into a soft dough. Wrap in cling film and chill in the fridge for 30 minutes.
2. Use the 10cm tall template of Duggee provided to cut around. Preheat the oven to 180°C / 160°C fan / gas mark 4 and line two baking trays with baking parchment. Roll out the dough to 5mm thick, cut out the Duggee shape and transfer to the lined baking trays. Bake for 10 minutes or until firm but still pale. Set aside to cool.
3. To decorate the cookies, knead the dark brown fondant briefly and roll out onto a work surface dusted with icing sugar. Use the templates to cut out shapes for Duggee's head, ears and hands. Roll and cut out shapes for Duggee's features and outfit details in the same way. Mix a small amount of icing sugar with water and use to stick all of the pieces onto the cookies. Set aside to firm up.

TEMPLATE



Find more Hey Duggee Red Nose Day resources at comicrelief.com/early-years

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