

Introduction

How do you start a conversation or get people to get involved with digital learning, if they say they don't like computers, or they don't see themselves as learners?

This guide has 25 fun digital activities that will get the most anti-digital person over for a closer look. Every activity covers an essential digital skill, and includes an engaging real-life activity to put out on a table or stall. This then links to a simple, fun, low stress digital activity to try. We've covered Apple and Android devices in our suggestions

AI has been used to help in the creation of this guide

How to use this guide

- Every activity is structured around a tabletop step to remove initial screen anxiety, followed by a live digital activity
- Always check whether your learner is using an Apple (iOS) or Android device before beginning, and refer to the specific platform differences highlighted below.
- Most activities are linked to a Learning Guide on Learn Worlds - <https://startingpoint.getlearnworlds.com>

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Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 1 : Emojis & Digital Language

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Online Jargon and emojis

Tabletop Preparation

Lay out printed emoji flashcards on the table (e.g., Eye, Heart, Tree). Ask the learner to arrange them to tell a simple phrase or riddle.

Volunteer Script

"Before we type on your screen, let's look at these paper icons. These are emojis - visual symbols we use online to share feelings or save time. Try selecting three cards here to build a sentence. Great! Now, let's find these exact symbols hidden inside your phone's digital keyboard so we can send them in a real message."

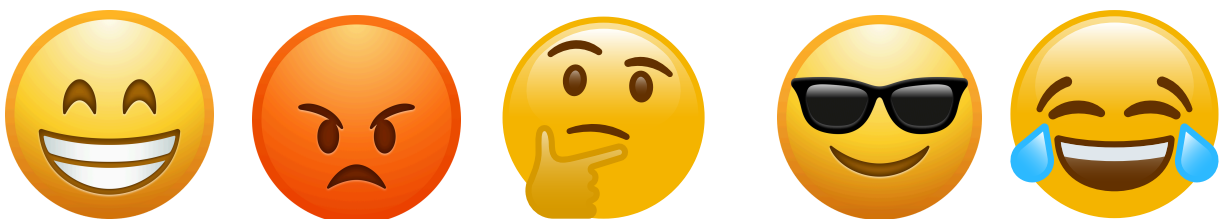
Digital Steps

1. Open a messaging app (like WhatsApp or default text messages).
2. Tap the text entry box to pop up the digital on-screen keyboard.
3. Locate and press the dedicated emoji icon to flip the text keyboard into symbols.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Look for the Globe icon or the smiley face icon in the bottom-left corner of the keyboard layout. Tap it to switch. Tap 'ABC' to switch back.

Android: Look for a dedicated smiley face icon usually sitting on the top row of the keyboard toolbar or right next to the spacebar. Devices running Samsung keyboards might look slightly different from standard Google Gboard.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 2 : Navigating & Mapping

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Google Maps / Location Sharing

Tabletop Preparation

Place a physical paper street map of the local area on the desk. Have the learner use their finger or a token to trace a route from a landmark to the library.

Volunteer Script

"We have our route mapped out here on paper. On a smartphone, we can look at this exact layout, zoom right down to street level, and even have it talk to us with live directions. Let's open our mapping app and search for this location digitally."

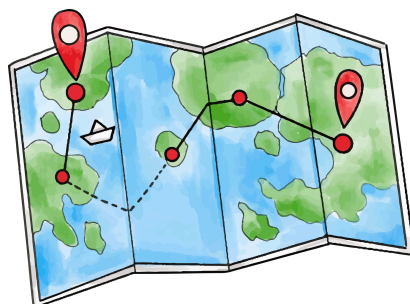
Digital Steps

1. Launch the mapping application.
2. Tap the Search Bar at the top of the screen and type in the destination name.
3. Practise 'pinch-to-zoom' gestures with two fingers to enlarge the map streets.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): iPhones come with Apple Maps pre-installed. However, many learners prefer downloading Google Maps. Street View in Apple Maps is called 'Look Around' (represented by a pair of binoculars).

Android: Google Maps is built-in by default. To enter street level view, tap the thumbnail square with the circular arrow on the bottom left after searching a location, or drag the yellow 'Pegman' icon if using a tablet layout.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 3 : Spotting Scams and Fake News

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Scam Awareness / Fake News

Tabletop Preparation

Show two side-by-side printouts of an email template claiming to be from a well-known bank. One has an irregular logo and a strange email address; one is legitimate.

Volunteer Script

"Scammers try to trick us by making their messages look identical to companies we trust. Take this pen and look closely at these two printed pages. Can you circle anything that looks unusual on the left one? Excellent spot—the email address doesn't say the real bank name. Let's see how we check this safely on a device without clicking anything dangerous."

Digital Steps

1. Open the email client app on the device.
2. Locate a promotional or unknown email message.
3. Teach the learner to check the detailed sender details rather than trusting the display name.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): In the default Mail app, tap the sender's name at the very top of the message window. It will expand downwards to show the actual email address inside angle brackets.

Android: In Gmail, tap the small 'to me' dropdown triangle right underneath the sender's display name to unhide the full details, security encryption status, and full reply-to address.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 4 : Interactive Puzzles and Dexterity

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Online Games / Online Problem Solving

Tabletop Preparation

Assemble a physical 12-to-24 piece cardboard jigsaw puzzle together on the desk. Focus on the physical action of picking, moving, and connecting parts.

Volunteer Script

"You have great coordination with physical puzzle pieces! Doing this on a screen requires the exact same problem-solving skills, but we use a movement called 'tap and drag'. Let's try an online puzzle to practice how we control objects using your finger on the display glass."

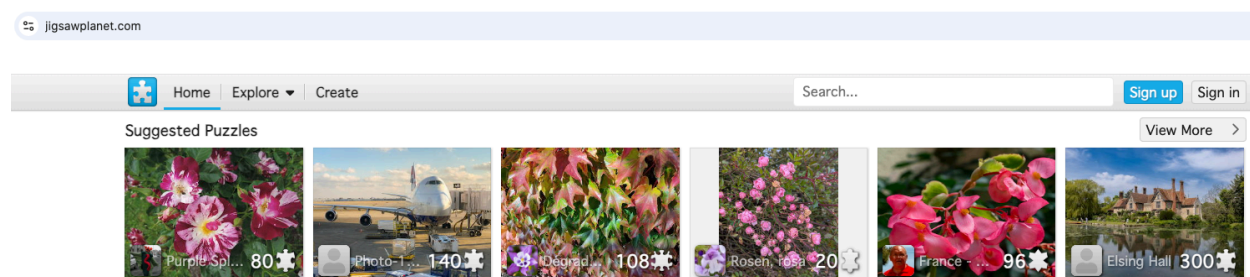
Digital Steps

1. Open the web browser (Safari or Chrome) and navigate to a simple, ad-free puzzle game site (e.g., Jigsaw Planet) or open a pre-downloaded puzzle app.
2. Instruct the learner to hold their finger down on a piece, move it across the screen, and release their finger to drop it.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Screen responsiveness is highly standardized. If a learner presses down too firmly, older iPhones might activate '3D Touch' menus. Remind them to keep touch inputs light.

Android: Touch sensitivity settings can vary wildly between brands (Samsung, Motorola, Honor). If pieces aren't dragging smoothly, look in Settings -> Display and enable 'Touch Sensitivity' or 'Pointer Speed'.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 5 : Files and Folders Essentials

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Files and Folders Essentials

Tabletop Preparation

Give the learner a stack of printed sheets (a recipe, a bill, a photo) and a set of empty physical cardboard file folders marked with tabs.

Volunteer Script

"When we have papers everywhere at home, we sort them into labeled folders so we can find them. Computers and phones do the exact same thing using a storage center. Let's build a digital folder structure so your downloaded files don't get lost."

Digital Steps

1. Open the core filing management application on the device.
2. Navigate to the 'Documents' or 'Internal Storage' zone.
3. Select the menu button, choose 'Create New Folder', type a custom title, and save it.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): The built-in app is called Files (blue folder icon). To make a folder, tap the three dots inside a circle icon in the top right corner and tap 'New Folder'.

Android: The default app is typically called Files by Google or My Files. Tap the three dots icon next to a category or scroll down to 'Internal Storage', tap the menu button, and choose 'Add folder'.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 6 : Creative Prompting with AI

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Artificial Intelligence Part 1 & 2

Tabletop Preparation

Use a pair of standard dice and a reference grid of words (e.g., Row 1: Character, Row 2: Setting). Have the learner roll to pick random creative constraints.

Volunteer Script

"Your dice roll gave us 'A chef', 'in space', 'cooking an egg'. Now, instead of writing a story ourselves from scratch, we're going to use an Artificial Intelligence program as a digital assistant. We will type this prompt in, and the AI will generate text back instantly."

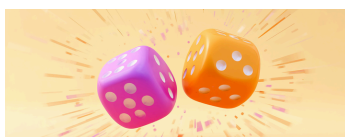
Digital Steps

1. Open a free AI app or browser interface (like Copilot, ChatGPT, or Google Gemini).
2. Tap into the chat/prompt bar.
3. Help the learner construct an actionable sentence: "Write a 3-sentence funny story about a chef in space cooking an egg."

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Integrated Siri features are transitioning to Apple Intelligence on newer models. For clear learning, use the standalone Copilot or ChatGPT app from the App Store.

Android: Many new Android models feature Google Gemini pre-baked directly into the operating system. Trigger it by holding the power button down or saying 'Hey Google' if voice commands are active.



	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Teacher	Cake	Car	Apple	Tree	Laughing
2	Astronaut	Soup	Motorbike	Cherry	Plant	Crying
3	etc.					
4	etc.					

Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 7 : Online Shopping and Basket Checkout

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Paying for Goods and Services Online / Transacting

Tabletop Preparation

Give the learner a printed supermarket product brochure or local retail catalogue. Have them circle 3 items and write down the total cost..

Volunteer Script

"You've picked out your items and calculated the price by hand. Let's see how a digital store does the maths for us. We'll search for these items, place them inside a virtual grocery basket, and look at how the checkout screen tallies everything up before any real money is spent."

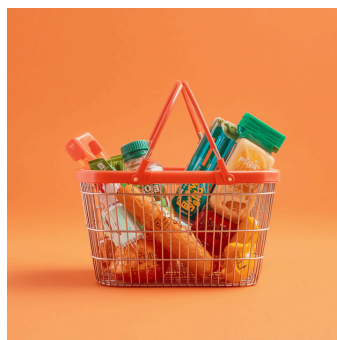
Digital Steps

1. Open a shopping app or official website browser window.
2. Use the search bar magnifying glass to look up the exact items chosen on paper.
3. Tap the button that says 'Add to Basket' or 'Add to Cart'. Locate the basket counter icon.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Passwords and payment screens autofill using Apple Pay / iCloud Keychain if enabled, which pops up a double-click side button prompt for confirmation.

Android: Uses Google Pay / Google Wallet systems. The autofill prompt appears directly on top of the keyboard. Emphasize that adding to a basket is completely safe and won't charge them until payment profiles are confirmed.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 8 : Accessibility and Visual Enhancements

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Accessibility Features on your Device

Tabletop Preparation

Show two printed examples of text: one sheet printed in a tiny 8pt font size, and one sheet printed in 18pt bold font text with high contrast colour.

Volunteer Script

"Many people struggle to read the small default text built into modern screens. Look at how much easier this large print sheet is to read. Your phone has built-in features that can change every single menu and app word to look like this large version automatically."

Digital Steps

1. Launch the primary System Settings application.
2. Locate and open the dedicated Accessibility menu tier.
3. Find options labeled 'Display', 'Text Size', or 'Font Zoom' and adjust sliders live.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Go to Settings -> Accessibility -> Display & Text Size. Toggle 'Bold Text' or tap 'Larger Text' and drag the base slider to the right.

Android: Go to Settings -> Accessibility -> Vision Enhancements (or Font size and style depending on manufacturer). Drag font size and screen zoom sliders until comfortable.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 9 : Nature Identification and Archives

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Digital Nature / Local History Online

Tabletop Preparation

Place 3 high-quality printed pictures of native wild birds, flowers, or older historical streets on the desk. Ask the learner what they notice about them. Or you could bring in some houseplants or cut flowers to identify.

Volunteer Script

"We can look at this image on the table and guess what it is, but your smartphone camera can inspect things live and find information immediately using the internet. Let's use a visual scanner to discover exactly what kind of plant or history matches this image."

Digital Steps

1. Open a camera-based lookup utility tool (like Google Lens or custom app).
2. Position the mobile device camera over the physical desktop photo, centering it.
3. Tap the shutter/search button to process the image and read the results.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Snap a photo in the regular Camera app. Open the photo inside the Photos app. If it detects a plant or animal, look for an 'i' icon with stars next to it (Visual Look Up) at the bottom toolbar.

Android: The Google Lens tool is integrated directly into the home screen search bar widget (small camera graphic) or inside the Google Photos app via the 'Lens' button.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 10 : QR Codes

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - QR codes

Tabletop Preparation

Have a look for some trustworthy posters or leaflets with QR codes, or generate a QR code to take you to some trustworthy websites. You can google 'Free QR generator' online to create your own. You could create a QR code " Lucky dip" - pull out a QR code to take you to a fun, safe website like a NASA video feed or a plant identifier

Volunteer Script

"You see these weird black-and-white square boxes everywhere now—on tables, leaflets, and posters. They act like a secret shortcut doorway. Instead of typing a long website link, your camera reads this block and jumps to the page instantly. Let's try it."

Digital Steps

1. Open the main built-in Camera app. Do not take a photo.
2. Hold the device steady so the square QR code box fits clearly inside the camera lens preview frame.
3. Wait for a digital pop-up link to overlay on the screen, then tap it with your finger.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): The stock Camera app automatically detects QR codes and displays a yellow pill-shaped button directly underneath the code box. Tap the yellow pill to open Safari.

Android: Most modern Android cameras have built-in auto-detection that shows a link preview. If it does not show, pull down the quick settings notification panel from the top of the screen and tap the dedicated 'Scan QR Code' tile shortcut.

Remember to warn people about being wary of QR code scams. Check a QR code is not asking you for payment, and watch out for stickers or suspicious looking QR codes, Just as you would be cautious of certain websites, be cautious of using QR codes or putting in any details, unless you are sure it's trustworthy.

The QR code below takes you to the Starting Point website!



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 11 : Creating a Dynamic Playlist

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Shared Playlists / Stockport Sounds

Tabletop Preparation

Hand the learner a printed template of a classic retro cassette tape or a blank CD jewel sleeve along with a pen. Ask them to write down 3 favourite music artists. Or maybe try a theme - "Songs with sunshine in the title" or "football playlist".

Volunteer Script

"You've written down your favourite classic tracks here on our paper cassette jacket. In the past, if a song wasn't on our tape, we couldn't hear it. Online, we can look up almost any song ever recorded and build a dynamic mix playlist. Let's build a digital version of your tape."

Digital Steps

1. Open a streaming music application (like Spotify or YouTube).
2. Tap the search bar (magnifying glass) and type in the first artist name from the paper list.
3. Select a song result, tap the triple-dot menu icon next to it, and select 'Add to Playlist'.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): iPhones come with Apple Music pre-installed. The search tab is in the lower right corner. Adding items requires tapping the '+' or triple dot menu.

Android: Typically uses YouTube Music or third-party apps like Spotify. Remind users that music apps will request permissions to run in the background, which is normal and safe.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 12 : Health and Steps Tracking

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Health Apps and Wearable Devices / Stockport Moves

Tabletop Preparation

Ask the learner to stand up and take 15 clear paces across the room while counting out loud: '1, 2, 3... 15'. Write '15 steps' down on a pad. Or you draw a footprint 'trail to follow on the floor with chalks, or cut out footprints from sticky back plastic. Write the numbers on each 'foot', to bring people to your table.

Volunteer Script

"You counted 15 physical paces. Your smartphone contains a tiny internal motion sensor that does this counting for you automatically throughout the entire day whenever it is in your pocket. Let's open your phone's health vault and look at your step charts." You already have help to 'get your steps in' if you have a phone.

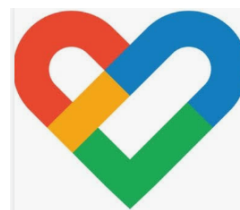
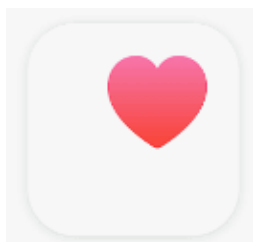
Digital Steps

1. Unlock the phone and look for the native health dashboard tracker app.
2. Locate the daily activity summary metric rings or counter bars.
3. Tap on the daily step log to see the bar chart broken down by hourly intervals.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Look for the pre-installed Health app (white icon with a pink heart graphic). It logs steps automatically via the phone's internal coprocessor.

Android: Uses Google Fit or manufacturer-specific options like Samsung Health. It may request permission to track 'Physical Activity' during the first open—ensure the learner clicks 'Allow'.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 13 : Video Call Controls

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Video Calling / Communication

Tabletop Preparation

Show two large physical flashcard signs: one featuring a Microphone symbol, one featuring a Video Camera symbol. Practice tapping the paper cards on command.

Volunteer Script

"When you are on a live video call, the screen buttons can look small and confusing. Let's practice with these paper cards first. If a loud background noise happens, you tap the Microphone sign to mute yourself. Let's jump onto a real live call now and test these buttons."

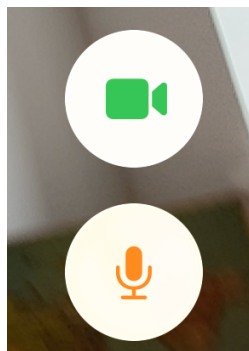
Digital Steps

1. Initiate a friendly testing video call between the learner device and one of their close contacts (using WhatsApp or similar).
2. Have the learner tap their screen once to display the floating interface control toolbar overlay.
3. Instruct them to tap the Mute icon and observe how the slash line appears through it.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): If using Apple's exclusive built-in FaceTime app, controls auto-hide quickly. The learner must tap the blank screen space lightly to reveal the green camera and microphone icons.

Android: Android devices cannot natively receive FaceTime links unless an Apple user sends them a web browser invite link. For universal teaching across platforms, utilize WhatsApp Video or Google Meet.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 14 : Planning Travel and Timetables

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Bee Network / Walking Apps

Tabletop Preparation

Provide a physical, paper-printed local bus or train timetable booklet. Ask the learner to find a morning departure time using their index finger.

Volunteer Script

"Paper timetables are useful, but they don't show you if a bus is currently stuck in traffic or running late. By using a digital travel app, we can see exactly where the bus is on a live map. Let's type our journey in to see the departure time update live."

Digital Steps

1. Open the local transport app (e.g., Bee Network) or a journey planner site.
2. Tap the 'From' entry box and enter the current location; tap 'To' and enter the target location.
3. Review the recommended route options and locate the live tracking countdown timer.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Apple Maps includes integrated transit departures directly inside the standard map layer without needing third-party tools.

Android: Google Maps provides similar integrated data, but specialised regional transit apps (like the Bee Network app for Greater Manchester) work beautifully and look identical across both platforms. Ensure location permissions are active.

330

Wharfedale Airport to Leeds via Newmarket-on-Peggs

Destination	Monday	Friday
Wharfedale Airport	06:00	06:00
Leeds City Centre	06:10	06:10
Leeds City Centre	06:20	06:20
Leeds City Centre	06:30	06:30
Leeds City Centre	06:40	06:40
Leeds City Centre	06:50	06:50
Leeds City Centre	07:00	07:00
Leeds City Centre	07:10	07:10
Leeds City Centre	07:20	07:20
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Leeds City Centre	23:00	23:00
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Leeds City Centre	23:50	23:50
Leeds City Centre	00:00	00:00



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 15 : Managing Prescriptions and Digital Health

Learning Guide Reference

An easy guide to the NHS app / Free Learner Guide - Managing Your Health

Tabletop Preparation

Create an engaging display on the table to spark curiosity, with a 'medical' theme - think empty medicine boxes, silly props like toy ambulances, a first aid boxes, even dressing up items like a nurses hat or toy stethoscope, or a folder saying 'medical notes'

Volunteer Script

"Instead of walking down to the local doctor's surgery every single month to drop off a repeat perscription request, you can handle everything directly through an official secure health application. Let's see where you can view and request your prescriptions safely. You can also see test results and your medical records, if you want to"

Digital Steps

1. Open the official NHS App (or relevant healthcare portal).
2. Locate the central navigation dashboard shortcuts at the bottom edge.
3. Tap on the 'Services' or 'Prescriptions' category to show where repeat orders are submitted.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Biometric login uses Face ID (facial recognition) or Touch ID (fingerprint home button). This speeds up secure logging into health portals.

Android: Uses the Android biometric prompt system (fingerprint scanner symbol or secure passcode pin numbers). Remind learners that the NHS App screen might go completely black if they try to screenshot it due to privacy protection security blocks.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 16 : Text and Mobile Phone Scams

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Staying Safe Online / Recognising Scams and Fraud

Tabletop Preparation

Print out two or three example text messages: one genuine (e.g. a GP appointment reminder) and two suspicious ones (e.g. a fake parcel delivery link, a bank fraud alert asking you to tap a link). Ask the learner to sort them into safe and suspicious piles.

Volunteer Script

"Scam text messages try to make you panic so you tap a link without thinking. Real organisations like your bank or the NHS will never ask you to click a link to confirm personal details. If a message looks odd, do not tap anything. Instead, contact the organisation directly using a number you already trust."

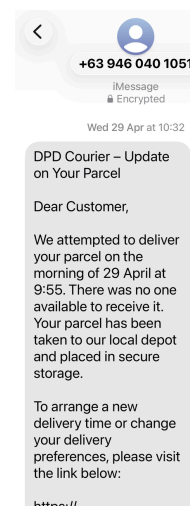
Digital Steps

1. Open the Messages app and find the suspicious text.
2. Look at the sender's number or name - scammers often use random digits or misspelled company names.
3. Check for urgent language like 'act now' or 'your account will be closed' - these are warning signs.
4. Do NOT tap any links. Instead, long-press the message and select 'Report junk' or forward it to 7726 (the free spam reporting number).

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Suspicious messages from unknown senders are automatically filtered into a separate 'Unknown Senders' tab. You can report junk directly from the message by tapping 'Report Junk' at the bottom of the conversation.

Android: Google Messages flags suspected spam with a warning banner at the top of the conversation. Tap 'Report spam' to block the sender and notify your network provider automatically.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 17 : Formatting and Digital CVs

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Creating and editing a CV / Employability Support

Tabletop Preparation

Hand the learner physical sticky notes and a pen. Have them write their past job titles and order them chronologically along the desk edge. Or have a silly fake CV for a cartoon character or famous person. You could have pictures of them on the table too.

Volunteer Script

"You have your employment record lined up on the table. To put this onto a digital document for employers, we type it into a word processor. We will practice typing text, correcting mistakes with the keyboard backspace button, and highlighting text to make it bold."

Digital Steps

1. Open a text processing workspace app (like Google Docs or Microsoft Word).
2. Have the learner type out their main job title using the keyboard keys.
3. Double-tap the word to select/highlight it, then press the capital B toolbar icon to apply a bold styling.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Selecting text requires a double-tap, then dragging the blue selection pins. The format controls sit on top of the keyboard row.

Android: Text selection uses green or blue tear-drop handles. If using a phone interface, formatting tool options might require tapping an expand arrow icon ('A' symbol with lines) on the top bar.

YOUR NAME

01234 567 890
no_reply@example.com

123 High Street
Anytown, County
Postcode

PROFILE
To get started, just tap or click this placeholder text and begin typing.
Include a short introduction about yourself and your career goals.

EXPERIENCE
Job Title, Company Name, City, County — 2022-Present
Summarise your key responsibilities and achievements.

Job Title, Company Name, City, County — 2019-2021
Add measurable accomplishments, such as sales growth, customer satisfaction, profitability increase or others.

Job Title, Company Name, City, County — 2016-2018
Highlight what you've learned and how you've grown in each job.

Job Title, Company Name, City, County — 2013-2015
Use tabs, indentation and character styles to organise and format this information.

Job Title, Company Name, City, County — 2010-2012
Keep these descriptions of experience clear, concise, and relevant to the position you're applying for.

EDUCATION
University Name, City, County — Degree, Year

SKILLS
Highlight your skills that are relevant to the role you're applying for.

AWARDS
If you've received any awards, mention them here.

Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 18 : Borrow Starting Point's 'Makey Makey' kits

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Makey Makey

Tabletop Preparation

Borrow Starting Point's 'Makey Makey' kits. These are simple electronics kits that link to an online platform. By wiring up the kids, learners can play games or play a piano on the website.

Volunteer Script

"Do you want to have a try with our Makey Makey kits today? Plug the wires into some playdoh or fruit and create a circuit. When you get it right, you can use your playdoh to play a tune on the piano on this tablet, or play a game. Can you play a tune with an orange, a banana and a pear?"

Digital Steps

1. Open the Makey Makey website [www. makeymakey.com/pages/plug-and-play-makey-makey-apps](http://www.makeymakey.com/pages/plug-and-play-makey-makey-apps)
2. Connect the Makey Makey kit to your device using the USB cable, or ask the learners to do that part! Follow the instructions in the Starting Point guide
3. Use the Makey Makey circuits to play a piano or a game

Platform Differences

It's a good idea to set up a device before you start with the USB cable, and check you feel confident using the Makey Makey kit yourself. Playdoh can work better than fruit sometimes, although fruit is funnier!

If your learners are using different devices that you could connect a USB cable to, why not give it a try?

As this is more of fun activity to get people playing on a device, talking to you, and enjoying using something digital for fun. The aim of this activity is to boost confidence and remember that digital devices can be fun, and not all stressful or practical.

Makey Makey works with Apple devices, as well as Android tablets or laptops - but you may need to google any specific information for your device before you set up the activity.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 19 : Media Apps and Smart TV Navigation

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Media Apps and Smart TV Navigation / Entertainment and Streaming

Tabletop Preparation

Give the learner a physical printed page from a weekly TV guide magazine sheet. Ask them to search for a missed show and highlight it with a marker. You might want to create some silly props like a cardboard box TV or a giant remote!

Volunteer Script

"On paper, if we miss a television broadcast time slot, we miss the programme. By using digital media apps on tablets or Smart TVs, we can access a catalogue of old episodes on-demand. Let's practice searching for this show inside a media app so you can watch it anytime."

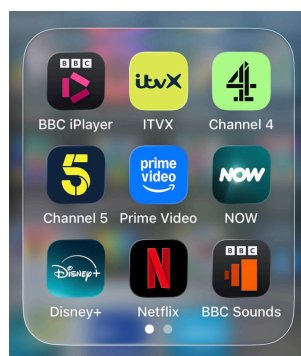
Digital Steps

1. Open an on-demand catch-up media platform app (like BBC iPlayer or ITVX).
2. Locate the main Search button icon (magnifying glass) inside the primary navigation side panel menu.
3. Type in the programme name from the paper guide sheet, select the thumbnail graphic tile, and locate the 'Play' button.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Streaming apps might check if you want to pair with an Apple TV or AirPlay box via an icon showing a small screen with a triangle at the bottom.

Android: Incorporates Google Chromecast casting infrastructure protocols instead. The streaming shortcut symbol looks like a wireless wifi signal bar broadcasting into a rectangular TV box frame icon in the top right header.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 20 : Family History and Archives

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Family History

Tabletop Preparation

Draw a simple family tree structure skeleton outline onto a broad sheet of card stock. Hand the learner sticky notes to place ancestral names on branches.

Volunteer Script

We have constructed your immediate family history tree using paper sticky notes. Now, let's explore how millions of historical birth certificates and old census registry archives are indexed digitally online. We can search for an ancestor's name and locate their records instantly."

Digital Steps

1. Launch the internet browser application tool window.
2. Navigate to an open-source public genealogy platform portal (e.g., FamilySearch).
3. Tap into the historical search form field blocks, type the full name and estimated location details, and tap 'Search'.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): The default built-in browser engine tool is Safari (represented by a blue compass icon graphic). The web address search text bar sits anchored at the lower screen edge by default.

Android: The default browser tool engine is almost always Google Chrome (represented by a multi-colored circular wheel graphic icon). The web address destination field entry bar is anchored at the very top edge of the screen frame.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 21 : Real Time Aviation and Flight Tracking

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Real Time Aviation and Flight Tracking

Tabletop Preparation

Place a printed world map or local airport diagram on the table. Ask the learner to point out airports they recognise or countries they have visited. Use a 3D Globe, toy plane or paper aeroplane as a visual prop.

Volunteer Script

"Have you ever wondered where a plane overhead is going? There are free apps that can tell us exactly that in real time. Let's start with this paper map to find our nearest airport, then we'll open a live flight tracker on your device and watch the planes move across the screen."

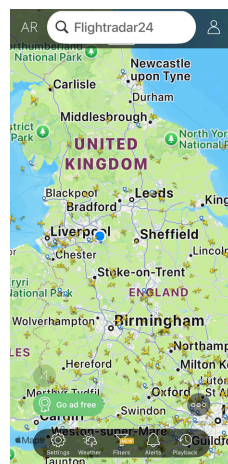
Digital Steps

1. Open the web browser and navigate to flightradar24.com (or open the Flightradar24 app).
2. Allow location access if prompted, so the map centres on your area.
3. Tap on any aircraft icon on the map to see its flight details, route, and altitude.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Flightradar24 is available free on the App Store. The app uses standard pinch-to-zoom gestures. Tapping a plane shows a pop-up card with flight info.

Android: The same app is available on Google Play. On tablets, the interface may show a split view with the map on one side and flight details on the other.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 22 : Nostalgia and Reminiscence Music

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Nostalgia and Reminiscence Music

Tabletop Preparation

Bring printed cards showing album covers or artist names from different decades. Ask the learner to sort them by era or pick their favourites. Can they put them in the right order? Have a portable speaker ready for playback. You might want to bring real album covers from home!

Volunteer Script

"Music can take us right back to a moment in time. Let's look at these album cards and pick something you remember fondly. Once we've chosen, I'll show you how to find that exact song on your device and play it through a speaker whenever you like."

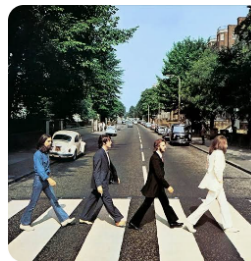
Digital Steps

1. Open YouTube or a music streaming app (such as Spotify or Apple Music).
2. Tap the Search icon and type in the artist name or song title.
3. Select the correct result and tap Play to listen through the device speaker.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Apple Music is pre-installed. YouTube can be accessed via Safari or the YouTube app. Siri can also play music by voice command: "Hey Siri, play [song name]."

Android: YouTube and YouTube Music are typically pre-installed. Google Assistant can play music by voice: "Hey Google, play [song name]." Spotify is a popular free alternative on both platforms.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 23 : Managing Utility Bills and Smart Meters

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Managing Utility Bills and Smart Meters

Tabletop Preparation

Place a printed sample utility bill on the table. Highlight key sections (account number, meter reading, amount due). Have a paper cutout of a smart meter display for comparison.

Volunteer Script

"Most energy companies now let you check your bills and meter readings online or through an app. Let's look at this paper bill first so we know what information to expect, then we'll log into your energy account on your device and find the same details digitally."

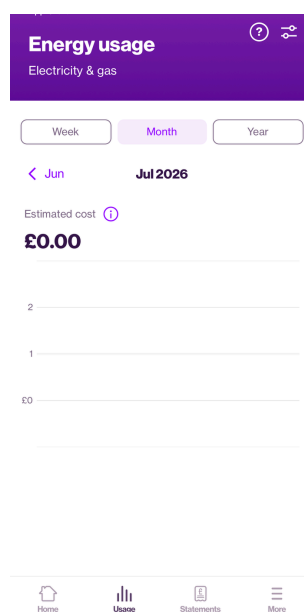
Digital Steps

1. Open the web browser and navigate to your energy provider's website (or open their app).
2. Log in using your account email and password.
3. Navigate to the 'Bills' or 'Usage' section to view current and past statements.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Most major energy providers (British Gas, EDF, OVO) have dedicated apps on the App Store. Face ID or Touch ID can be used to log in quickly after initial setup.

Android: The same provider apps are available on Google Play. Some Android devices support fingerprint login for these apps. Smart meter in-home displays connect independently and do not require the app.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 24 : Weather Forecasting and Travel Prep

Learning Guide Reference

Free Learner Guide - Weather Forecasting and Travel Prep

Tabletop Preparation

Print out a simple weather symbols key (sun, cloud, rain, snow, wind). Ask the learner to match symbols to descriptions. Have a printed weekly forecast from a newspaper for comparison.

Volunteer Script

"Checking the weather before heading out is something we all do. Your phone can give you hour-by-hour forecasts for any location. Let's start by matching these weather symbols on paper, then we'll open the weather app on your device and look at tomorrow's forecast together."

Digital Steps

1. Open the Weather app (pre-installed on most devices).
2. Check the current conditions and scroll down to see the hourly and weekly forecast.
3. Tap the search icon to add a new location (useful for checking holiday destinations).

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): The built-in Weather app shows a clean hourly and 10-day forecast. Swipe left or right to switch between saved locations. Tap the map icon for animated radar.

Android: Google Weather is accessible by searching 'weather' in Google. Samsung devices have a dedicated Weather widget. The BBC Weather app is a popular alternative on both platforms.



Digital Skills Volunteer Activities

Activity 25 : Dating Vintage Mobile Phones

Learning Guide Reference

Search online for Dating Vintage Mobile Phones

Tabletop Preparation

Bring in 3-4 old mobile phones (or printed photos of them) from different eras (e.g., Nokia 3310, Motorola Razr, Sony Ericsson, early iPhone). Ask the learner to arrange them in chronological order and discuss what has changed.

Volunteer Script

"Mobile phones have changed enormously over the years. Let's look at these older models and put them in order from oldest to newest. Then we'll use your current smartphone to search online and find out exactly when each one was released and what made it special at the time."

Digital Steps

1. Open the web browser (Safari or Chrome).
2. Tap the search bar and type the phone model name followed by 'release date' (e.g., 'Nokia 3310 release date').
3. Read the summary card or top result to confirm the year, then compare with your guesses.

Platform Differences

Apple (iOS): Safari is the default browser. Google search results often show a Knowledge Panel with the release date prominently displayed. Siri can also answer: "When was the Nokia 3310 released?"

Android: Chrome is the default browser. Google Assistant can answer the same questions by voice. On Samsung devices, the default browser is Samsung Internet, which works identically for searching.

