

## Family Learning Festival 2011 Starting New Adventures Together...!

The National October Family Learning Festival opened up opportunities throughout Cambridgeshire for children and their families to “Start New Adventures Together” with parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters and carers enjoying many activities linked to the National Year of Communication. These included: making rockets, cooking, dancing, puppet shows, meeting exotic pets, learning Morse code, radio broadcasting, orienteering, sign language and much more. Families had great fun learning together!



*“This was an exciting and wonderful day and we have all enjoyed learning about science. My son was so looking forward to it that he had started reading science books by himself last week. It has all been amazing!”* (Parent at Eastfield Infant and Nursery School)

All the events were organised by schools, colleges, children’s centres, community centres, libraries and local organisations. They were supported by the Skills Funding Agency through the Family Learning Service so all were free entry. Family Learning has encouraged and embraced these partnerships within all the local communities.

*“I liked the fact it was all free and the car making was surprisingly enjoyable!”* (Parent at Meldreth Primary School.)

*“What an interesting experience – thoroughly enjoyed every minute, thank you.”* (Parent at The Spinney School after making a crystal radio!)

*“Fantastic range of activities and freedom to roam between them – brilliant! Thanks.”* (Visitor to Cottenham Village College)

Parents said that most of all they enjoyed having quality time with their children and how much they enjoyed themselves. Many commented on how organised the events were and what a variety of activities there were on offer.



Interim statistics show that the events were attended by almost 2,000 visitors at the 36 events in the county and the success of the Festival is due to all the hard work of the organisers and the enthusiasm of the families attending the activities. More to come in 2012!

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