Royal
Botanic Garden
Edinburgh

Edinburgh International
Children's Festival
25 May – 6 Jun 2021

Family Encounters at the Botanics
29–30 May and 5–6 June (10:00–17:00)

This year's hybrid Children's Festival consists of a digital programme and *Family Encounters*, a mostly outdoor programme presented over the Festival's two weekends.

Family Encounters features a range of FREE exciting and innovative live performances from artists based in Scotland.

- **Please keep a 2m distance throughout the garden and follow staff's instructions.**
- **Some events have a very small capacity. Please book a slot on site.**
- **The schedule is subject to change and may be affected by weather conditions.**

Full Festival programme at www.imaginate.org.uk

Family Encounters at the Botanics

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Family Encounters is supported by:

EventScotland™ CIRRUS LOGIC® FOYLE FOUNDATION WALTER SCOTT SINCE · 1983

1 Peekaboo Poncho *by Alison Brown Threads*

Times (8 min): 10:15, 10:45, 11:15, 11:45, 13:15, 13:45, 14:15, 15:15, 15:45, 16:15

A fun, immersive, dance and movement piece inspired by the game of peekaboo, hide and seek and various beloved childhood toys. As well as a feast for the eyes the Poncho incorporates sound, movement and the development of colour. Beginning only with black and white patterns to help focus babies' attention, the Poncho is brought to life and colour by Dancer/Choreographer Suzi Cunningham and culminates in an explosion of joyful dance.

2 The Unicorn *by Nudge Puppets*

Times (30 min): 10:45; 12:00; 13:00; 15:00; 16:00

The Unicorn has found a new home in the lovely Botanic Garden. Can you find her? She's a soft wild creature. Approach her gently and bow. If she bows back you've made a special friend. Listen to the sound she makes when she trots along. Can you hear her clip-clopping hooves? Can you walk, skip and gallop like her? A life-size walkabout puppet.

3 The Undiscovered Creature *by Georgie Mac*

Times (30 min): 10:00; 11:45; 13.45; 15:15

Just like you, The Undiscovered Creature is a little bit of everything. They are on a mission to find out what makes stuff so good at being itself. Discover The Creature and their trusty tool belt out in the wild, chatting to a rose bush or drawing a sensitive portrait of a stone. The Creature encourages you to examine the natural world around you through imaginative play. A gentle interactive walkabout performance about evolution and artistic expression.

4 The Swings *by All or Nothing Aerial Dance Theatre*

Times (15 min + time to play): 10:30; 11:30; 12:30; 14:00; 15:00; 16:00

'Life was never better on a swing, the higher the better!' We love playing and swinging about on our giant swing set and we'd love you to have a go too. Your swinging will activate a soundscape full of memories of being on a swing. Feel the rush of air past your face and be inspired by our aerialists with what you can do with a swing! A 5m high swing set where you can play, watch, and listen. *Accessible seat available. Please book a slot.*

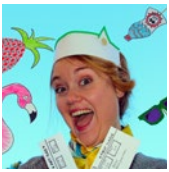
5 The Good, The Bad and The Poultry *by [forms]*

Times (30 min): 10:00; 11:30; 12:30; 14:30; 15:30

This clown is a chicken, but don't let him hear you call him that – he likes to make poultry in motion. But he's not alone... There are two more cocks in the coop, one bigger and 'badder' and one's a different bird all together. The three of them, and a live poultry band work together to incorporate games and explore universal fear all the while unravelling the ancient mystery of the egg that never cracks...

6 Away... from Home! *by Tortoise in a Nutshell*

Times (10 min – book on site): 10:20; 10:40; 11:00; 11:20; 11:40; 13:20; 13:40; 14:00; 14:20; 15:20; 15:40; 16:00; 16:20



Have you missed travel? Do you want the comfort of here but with the adventure of there? Whether you long to mingle in the Med or embrace the glaciers of Alaska, you can now have it all with our holiday hub travelling machine. A raucous interactive installation that peaks perfection before descending into chaos. A multi-sensory experience for one family household at a time which makes expert use of magic, object manipulation and innovative sound design.

7 Small Small Rainbows *by Hazel Darwin-Clements & Frozen Charlotte*

Times (5 min per story): Any time between 10:00–13:00 and 14:00–16:30

Come and hear a teeny story and let the colourful characters roam your imagination for a few minutes. If it's a wee bit of joy, a little quirkiness or a mini adventure that you're looking for, listen no further. Each family will take a watering can, find their own space and listen to their own story. It's a special listening experience for small small ears using Siân Bevan's ickle sparkly story treasures which we found in a golden pot at the end of the rainbow.

8 My Land Your Land *by Two Destination Language*

Times (from 6 min): Any time between 10:00–16:30

What do you think of when you think of home? Is it the place you keep your clothes? The place your mum or dad lives? Or is it far away? A place you came from once or visit only on holidays? A place you barely know, where they speak another language? Join us on an audio journey to hear stories of home from Edinburgh young people whose families came here from other countries. *Please bring your own headphones if you can.*

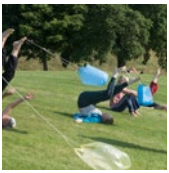
9 The Listening Tree *by Zoë Bullock and Emily Reid*

Times (20 min – book on site): 10:15; 10:50; 11:25; 12:00; 13:50; 14:25; 15:00; 15:35; 16:10

What sounds do the trees make? Sithy is a tree spirit. It's their job to listen to all the secrets of all the trees, all across Scotland. The Listening Tree is a walking character experience for all the family. Find yourself entranced and intrigued by this mysterious tree spirit and their stories, brought to life with real plants! Learn how to listen to the trees, and find a new way to play in the green spaces all around us.

10 Little By Little Field *by Curious Seed*

Times (50 min): 11:30; 14:30



When the world changes suddenly and nothing is predictable, do you stay lost or do you go exploring? Little by Little Field is an outdoor dance inspired by climbing a tree, magical maps and making choices together. Join us on a journey of discovery as our intrepid explorers bring this world to life and try to make sense (and make use) of all that they find there. Step by step, little by little, we invite family audiences to explore, to celebrate, to dream and to dance together.

Family Encounters across Edinburgh

29–30 May and 5–6 June

You can still book (free) places for these live events. Check times and booking information at **www.imaginate.org.uk/festival**

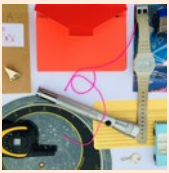
Lovey and Boy – a carnival odyssey *by Project X* (7–15 yrs)

Lovey and Boy are best friends who love to dance and are excited for carnival time. Boy is discovering more about who she is. The friends embark on a journey to learn more about their heritage and carnival. This immersive video trail is a celebration of Caribbean heritage and identity asking who are we and how we move through the world. Artists: M. Broomes, KJ Clarke Davis, L. Crinall, A. Harris, S. Henry, C. Kabaso, KL Riot

Alley Oop *by Room 2 Manoeuvre* (6–16 yrs)

A fun, energetic workshop using dance and basketball to explore what it takes to bounce back from a fall, leap into the unknown and, when the pressure is on, how we need to work together to make that slam dunk. Artists Tony Mills and Yip Chan will teach you the basics of basketball and hip hop/breakin' and help you discover how dance and sport can come together. Bring comfy clothes and lots of energy!

Lock Up *by MI85* (7-12 yrs)



LOCK UP is a top-secret adventure, where our team of experienced operatives will make contact and test you and your family in a series of challenges... Can you solve clues, beat the clock and join us to save the future? Using a box of accessories delivered to your door, you will unlock clues and solve puzzles in your own time throughout the weekend, and finish with a live session online on Sunday afternoon.

Family Portrait *by Barrowland Ballet* (All ages)

An interactive video installation, combining striking imagery and choreography, capturing an intimate portrayal of family life. With space to roam, the children encounter rabbit skulls, converse with spiders, make war paint with berries and bury their mother in bark. With humour and candour, the work shares an honest depiction of what family really is – responsibility, joy, balance, intimacy and, most of all, love.

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Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund

Festival Digital Programme

25 May – 6 June

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Potato Needs a Bath *by Shona Reppe* (3–5yrs)

Interactive – various time slots

Meet Maris Piper and her fruit and vegetable friends in this colourful combination of live and pre-recorded performance based on the much loved theatre show. Watch the quirky 30 min film, then join the fruit and vegetable party of the year live with the performer. Includes instruction videos on making party hats for your favourite vegs!

The University of Wonder & Imagination *by Cahoots NI* (7–11yrs)

Interactive – various time slots

A fun, interactive live magic show where children shape their own, unique experience, entering themed rooms and encountering all kinds of problems and puzzles. The show will be broadcast live from a purpose built set where magic and illusion have no boundaries, bringing a fun filled, immersive theatrical experience directly to your home.

The Super Special Disability Roadshow *by Birds of Paradise* (8–13yrs)

Watch any time

A humorous multi-media show contrasting what it's like growing up disabled today and in the 80s with humour, heart and honesty. Appearing through filmed interviews, the younger generation sets the adults straight, exploring what it means to be disabled today with disarming candour. Integrated BSL, captions and audio description available.

Removed *by Prime Cut Productions* (12yrs+)

Watch any time

A moving insight into the experiences of a young man sharing his story of living within the state care system. Both heart-breaking and hilarious, Adam's story reaches out and grabs you, pulling you into a world that you might think you know. Beautifully shot as a direct to camera monologue. BSL interpretation and captions available.