

# The Coronation of Their Majesties **King Charles III** and **Queen Camilla**



*On Saturday 6 May 2023, King Charles will be officially coronated at Westminster Abbey. There will be an exciting weekend full of ceremony, celebration and community.*

*This Coronation Practice Special will provide some ideas for how you can celebrate the event with your children and families as well as providing a royal variety of enhancements throughout your provision.*

## Plan a party

Whether you plan a street party or a big lunch or simply invite parents to celebrate with the children, a Coronation Celebration is a must. Let's start with the invitations and decorating the nursery ready for the big day.



## Printed invites

Use online templates to create royal invitations to your special event. Children can choose the template they wish to use and agree wording with you. Print out the invite and support the children to write who they are inviting. Remember to include the day, date and time and if you wish the children or families to bring anything or come dressed for the occasion. Consider inviting along some of your community neighbours, such as local primary schools or care home residents.



## Decorate the nursery

Think about how you are going to decorate the nursery for the celebration day - involve families in creating bunting.

Provide each child with a red, white or blue paper triangle to take home with some instructions for parents, encouraging them to fill their triangle with their favourite family activities using pictures, writing or family photos. When these have been returned they can be stapled to string to create bunting to hang in the nursery rooms.



## Royal gallery

Using block water colour paints, demonstrate how to wet the paintbrush, collect the colour from the block palette and paint it onto the paper. Younger children can use their fingers, wetting them on a damp sponge then rubbing them onto the block palette before mark making on paper. Talk about the colours of the palette and the new colours they make when paint colours are combined together. Ask children to name their painting and once the paintings are dry, frame them using recycled picture frames (glass fronts removed). Add stickers with the name of the 'artist' and title of the painting. Display the pictures as a Royal Gallery.



## Create your own tablecloth

Ready for the Coronation Celebration, a collaborative tablecloth can be created using a plain tablecloth or sheet with fabric pens.

Allocate sections for each child or family. After it's been used for the celebration it can be displayed as a piece of community art.



## Did you know...?

King Charles loves to paint outdoor scenes with water colours. He finds it both relaxing and therapeutic.



**Important: Activities with children must always be risk assessed, including for allergies. Children should always have adequate supervision. Resources and materials should always be appropriate for children's age and stage of development.**



# Prepare for the day - a royal celebration wouldn't be complete without **a castle, marching band, carriage and cake.**

## Did you know...?

King Charles can play not one, not two, but three instruments: cello, piano and trumpet.



## Start marching

Listen to classical marching bands or watch a video of the British Grenadiers Trooping of the colours. Practice marching, encouraging the children to lift their knees high and stomp in time to the beat.



## Royal procession

Use recyclable resources to create instruments adding red, white and blue strips of crepe paper to make tassels. The children can play and march for their parents in a royal procession for the Coronation Celebration. Provide hats and fabric for robes to wear while parading and playing or suggest the children dress in red, white and blue clothes. Older children may like to take turns to be the band leader and take the band on a marching procession inside and outside the nursery. Younger children and babies will love to join in with their instruments too.



## Make a royal carriage

Outdoors, make a royal carriage using loose parts such as crates and tyres and add hobby horses. Provide dressing up clothes, including crowns, robes and long gloves. Don't forget the royal wave.



## Make up your own coronation song

Tune - 'The Wheels on the Bus'

"The horse and carriage go rolling by, rolling by, rolling by  
The horse and the carriage go rolling by, for the coronation.  
The King in the carriage waves his hand, waves his hand, waves his hand...  
The Queen in the carriage nods her head, nods her head, nods her head..."



## Palace role play

Get the children into a royal frame of mind by creating a castle corner.

Set up an area with large cardboard boxes and recyclable items. Display images of castles from across the UK to stimulate children's imagination. Children can work on their own or together to create a castle fit for King Charles. With access to a variety of creative resources such as measuring tapes, sticky tape, scissors, glue, pens and craft materials the children can create turrets and ramparts. Add a 'throne' using a large chair draped in velvet or gold fabric.



## Bake and decorate a Royal Crown Cake

Make a single layer sponge cake by mixing 100g caster sugar with 100g soft margarine until creamy. Beat an egg and 25g self-raising flour into the mixture. Add another egg and 25g flour. Gently mix in 50g flour with a metal spoon.

Grease a 20cm cake tin and spoon in the mixture. Bake at 180°C for 40-45 mins. Turn out onto a cooling rack.

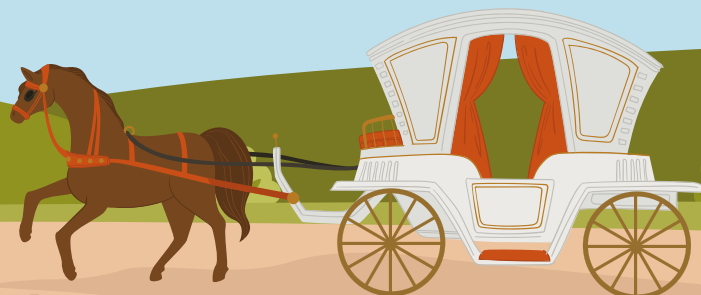
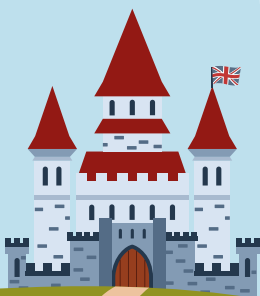
To decorate the cake, make some butter icing by mixing 75g soft butter with 150g icing sugar. Add a few drops of lemon juice. Put a tablespoon of the mixture to one side and spread the rest on top of the sponge.

Pinch the ends off wafer ice cream cones and press them on, with the points upwards. Dip glace cherries in the spare icing and place one on top of each cone. Add jellied sweets, edible silver balls and other jewels to the middle of the cake.



## Read 'King For a Day' by Thomishia Booker

What would the children do if they could be King for a day? Why not put the children's names into a hat to see who will be King for the morning or afternoon? Give them a crown and robe and let them make up the rules.



# No coronation would be complete without a crown.

## Here's a few ideas to get you started....



### Crown templates

Create crown templates - hand drawn by children and adults. Alternatively, support children to select templates from the internet to print. Laminate the crown images so that they can be used with the activities below.

### Did you know...?

King Charles will wear the St Edward's Crown when he is coronated. The crown is made of solid gold and weighs five pounds. It contains 444 gemstones including rubies, sapphires, garnets and tourmalines.



### Playdough crown

Make batches of shimmery dough by adding biodegradable silver or gold glitter. Encourage the children to squash, roll or cut the dough. They can make their own crown shapes or decorate a crown template. Use tools or unusual objects to make patterns and add large acrylic gems, shells, polished pebbles or shiny items. Children can take photographs of their finished crowns to be displayed or laminate them to use as placemats for the party.



### Crown jewels

Gather beads, bangles, baubles, perfume bottle tops, metal curtain rings, large acrylic gems and so on, putting them into a basket or box. Babies and toddlers will enjoy exploring the items and experimenting with feeling, tipping, banging and wearing the objects.

Pre-school children can use the crown templates and add jewels as decorations, creating repeated patterns using coloured or shaped objects. They could make it into a game, taking turns to roll a dice (numbered one, two, three) and adding items to their crown each time.



### Did you know...?

An emblem for the coronation has been created with plants to represent each of the four nations of the United Kingdom: rose for England, thistle for Scotland, daffodil for Wales and shamrock for Northern Ireland. These natural forms combine to make an image of St Edward's Crown, which will be used for the coronation of King Charles. Can the children find the different plants in the image?

Image source: The Official Coronation website [coronation.gov.uk](https://coronation.gov.uk)



### Nature's crowns

Using the idea of plants from the emblem, use natural resources to make some natural crowns:

Indoors - decorate the crown templates with natural objects such as pine cones, pebbles and shells.

Outdoors - make chalk crown outlines and decorate with fallen leaves, petals, twigs, seeds.

Get families involved making natural crowns - daisies, dandelions, pebble crowns on a beach or stick crowns in the woods. Don't forget to ask for photos to display in the Royal Gallery.



### Create your own paper flags

You will need some flags to wave at the celebration. Show children a variety of flags from the UK and any home countries for children's families. Talk about the countries they represent. Children can design their own flags which can be made easily from just one piece of A4 paper.

1. Fold the paper in half and in half again, then open out
2. Decorate the top right section
3. Cut out and discard the bottom right section
4. Roll the long left hand side as tightly as possible and fasten with tape. This is your flagpole.



### Did you know...?

The flag of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland is made up of three different flags - England, Scotland and Ireland. Wales is not included as the flag was designed when Wales was still part of the Kingdom of England.



# Finally, you are ready for the Coronation Celebration!

See page five for bank holiday guidance from our corporate partner Citation

## Bring it all together

Decorate the setting with the family bunting, create your royal gallery and invite parents to your celebration event. Children can dress up or wear red, white and blue clothes with hats or crowns to finish the costumes. They can play their instruments while marching and parading for parents, waving their flags and joining in with the songs. Other music for your party can be found on the coronation webpage [www.coronation.gov.uk](http://www.coronation.gov.uk)



## Let's play some party games

Play some coronation themed party games such as musical thrones (instead of musical chairs) or king, king, queen (instead of duck, duck, goose).

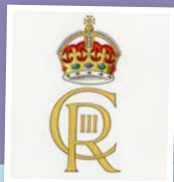
If you made a special royal dish or coronation cakes, now's the time to tuck in, sharing with your families and special guests.



## Did you know...?

King Charles has a 'cypher' which is a monogram consisting of the initials of his name, Charles, and title, Rex, alongside a representation of the Crown. Rex is Latin for king. You might have heard rex being used somewhere else... the Tyrannosaurus Rex is the king of the dinosaurs.

Image source: The Official Royal website [www.royal.uk/his-majesty-kings-cypher](http://www.royal.uk/his-majesty-kings-cypher)



## Coronation vocabulary

The coronation will introduce the children to new vocabulary, like rex, so take the time to share the new words and their meanings. Here's a few more to get you started.

Coronation	Gallery	Jewel
Throne	Bunting	Sceptre
Buckingham Palace	Carriage	Castle
Royal	Westminster Abbey	Orb

## Quiz time

How much do you know about coronations? Use these quiz questions with staff or share with parents. You could even ask for a donation to enter the quiz and present the winner with a home-made golden crown.



### True or false?

1. The coronation chair is 500 years old
2. King Charles will be the 40th sovereign to be crowned at Westminster Abbey
3. The anointing oil used in the coronation contains orange, roses, cinnamon, jasmine and myrrh
4. The crown jewels are kept in the Tower of London guarded by seven ravens
5. Coronations have been held at Westminster Abbey for 900 years
6. The coronation of King Charles will be the first ever to be televised.

## The Big Help Out

On Monday 8 May, organisers of the coronation weekend are encouraging people to get involved volunteering in their local areas as tribute to the King's own public service and to bring communities together. Find out what's happening in your area by visiting the Big Help Out website [www.thebighelpout.org.uk](http://www.thebighelpout.org.uk)



## King themed texts

The King's Pants by Nicholas Allan  
King for a Day by Thomishia Booker  
The King's Shopping by June Crebbin  
The Cook and the King by Julia Donaldson  
King and King by Linda de Haan and Stern Nijland  
Amazing Facts: King Charles III by Hannah Wilson  
The King Who Banned the Dark by Emily Haworth-Booth

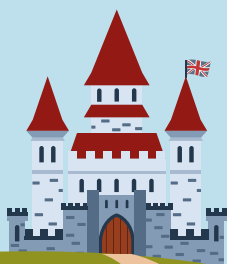


## Share your celebrations with us!

@NDNAtalk @NDNAtalk /ndna.org.uk

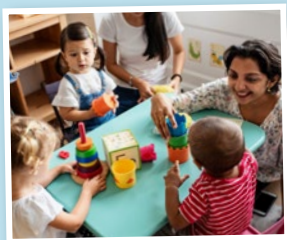
## Quiz time answers

1. False, it is 700 years old
2. True, he will be the 34th King
3. False, myrrh is not used
4. True, they are called Jubilee, Harris, Gripp, Rocky, Erin, Poppy and Merlina
5. True
6. False, the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II was televised.



# 2023 additional bank holiday

## guidance for nurseries from Citation

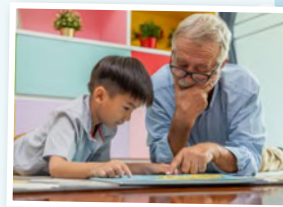


Employees don't have an automatic right to take the additional bank holiday on 8 May. The employment contract is crucial to whether employees are entitled to this paid day off, although employers should also consider what they did last year. They must also remember that employees may be keen to take part in the national celebrations and therefore, if they are required to work, this could impact engagement.

Contracts are all worded slightly differently, but to consider the most common examples and whether these give a right to this additional bank holiday:

- Contract says employee is entitled to (e.g.) 4 weeks holiday plus bank holidays, but without specifying when/what these are – employee is entitled to a paid day off
- Contract says employee is entitled to (e.g.) 5.6 weeks holiday including any bank holidays – employee is entitled to a paid day off but this will come out of their holiday allowance, so they will have the same number of days off work in 2023
- Contract says employee is entitled to bank holidays, but lists these as the eight normal bank holidays – employee is not entitled to the additional bank holiday
- Contract expresses holiday as a set number of days/weeks, e.g. 28 days, with no right to bank holidays – employee is not entitled to the additional bank holiday.

However, employees will no doubt remember whether they were given the 2022 additional bank holidays. If they did receive extra paid days off, even if this is above their contractual rights, this could mean they're entitled to 8 May as well, unless the employer was clear that the 2022 extra holidays did not create any right in the future.



If the employee doesn't have the right to 8 May off, then the employer can decide what to do. Options include:

- Tell employees that everyone will get an extra day's holiday on 8 May e.g. to say thanks for all their hard work, but state that this does not create a right to any future additional bank holidays
- Tell employees that the setting is closing over this three-day weekend and they'll need to take a day from their holiday entitlement to cover 8 May. They need at least two days' notice of this day off so there's still time to do this, but if this is only being done now, it may upset employees who have already planned how they will use their holiday this year
- If the setting is going to be open, tell employees they'll need to apply for a day's holiday if they want the day off. If the parent contracts allow, the setting could require advance notice if the child is going to be in and then could relax the holiday rules to only require the minimum ratio staff in that day. Hopefully this will then allow more employees to be off than normal.



One final point is that if the holiday year runs from April – March, there could be an issue with the Easter weekend. Due to the movement of when Easter falls, the 2023/2024 holiday year contains Good Friday twice (7 April 2023 and 29 March 2024). Again, it will come down to contractual wording, but employers will need to consider whether employees are entitled to both Good Fridays in 23/24 and also bear in mind that this could mean the employee is only receiving seven bank holidays in the holiday year 2024/25, which may mean they fall below the minimum statutory holiday that year. They might therefore need an extra day's holiday to cover that year too.