

Ross of Mull and Iona Roamers



Choose a beach to explore, ideally one with both sand and rockpools such as Fionnphort or Uisken or Martyr's Bay.



Try to visit when the tide is low or going out – you can find out tide times from the internet or a book of tide tables. Did you know that tides are controlled by the moon? Notice what shape the moon looks next time there is a clear sky. Which shape (phase) of the moon makes the lowest tides? Can you find out why this is?

Can you build a tower with stones? Compete with someone else and see who can build the highest! Experiment with different rock types, for example do the crystals on pink granite at Fionnphort beach help stones to interlock, or is the flat grey schist at Uisken easier to stack? For more outdoor art ideas try searching online for pictures by Tim Pugh or Andy Goldsworthy.



Are there any tracks in the sand? They might be made by birds, humans, dogs, crawling limpets, or if you are really lucky, an otter! You could make up a story – imagine what was happening as the track was made, why did they walk that way, was it a creature finding food, a person playing with their pet, or something else?

Gently hunt through the rockpools and see if you can find:

- An underwater plant
- Something that swims
- Something that used to be alive but now isn't
- Something with lots of tentacles



This guide will help you: <https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-06/ROCKPOOLING.jpg>

Ask Emily if you would like to borrow any equipment!



Lots of human rubbish is blown or washed into the sea where it can hurt wildlife. Could you pick up a few pieces and take them to a bin (don't touch anything sharp!) – and when you get home, look around your house for anything made of plastic that's used once or twice and then thrown away. Can you think of ways of using less plastic at home, to reduce the rubbish that might end up in our oceans?

Well done, you have finished! Why not take a photo of activities and post to the Mull and Iona Ranger Service Facebook page, we'd love to see what you got up to!

<https://www.facebook.com/mullionarangerservice>

