Podcasts to listen to over the Easter Break or when you need a break

<u>How</u>

Listening to Podcast is easy and there are a lot out there. You can subscribe to them through channels such as the BBC but you can also download them using other podcast providers such as iTunes. The one I use is Google Podcasts, this is really easy to use and has loads of them on there. You can also subscribe to podcasts and it will let you know when the next one is available.

Parents

You should always vet what they are listening to. Like TV some Podcasts are brilliant for children and others are not. There is no watershed on downloads though. If you search on Google – Podcasts for children then a lot of stuff comes up. It is worth maybe listening to one with your child to start with to check they are suitable. I have linked some below and have listened to most.

Children

You should always get permission from your parent/carer to listen to and download podcasts. Nearly all are free and most are perfectly suitable for all. As with TV some programmes you will not like and some you will love. There will definitely be something out there for you and its worth trying new things as well as something you were not sure about may become your new love.

There are a lot of podcasts out there. A LOT. And it can be hard to know where to start – and which are worth your time (and data). If you subscribe to a few and forget about them for a bit, suddenly you have more audio than you could ever dream of getting through, right there in your pocket.

But it's not just adults who have an overwhelming amount of pre-recorded audio at their fingertips, there are plenty of podcasts for kids, too. They are something to stick on during a long car journey, an alternative to screen time or to sit down and enjoy as a family.

Best kids podcasts for comedy

Ask The Nincompoops Kids never stop asking questions, and now there's a podcast dedicated to just that. Andy Stanton, author of Mr Gum, and Carrie Quinlan, a radio 4 actor, host this very silly, vaguely educational show looking at issues such as farting, the history of cheese and why humans aren't stripy.

<u>Story Pirates</u> Stories written by kids are reinterpreted by comedians, musicians and improvisers in usually deeply silly ways. Beloved by The Daily Show's Jon Stewart, and featuring occasional guest appearances by big names like John Oliver and Clare Danes, it's at once really funny and a heartfelt celebration of creativity.

<u>What If World</u> "What if monsters were real... but made of chocolate?" Our host, My Eric, takes incredibly random, hypothetical situations sent in by children, and improvises stories based on them. Even if the spinning of ales seemingly out of thin air doesn't impress you, his endless ability to switch between voices certainly will should.

Best kids podcasts for storytelling

<u>Circle Round</u> This podcast takes folk tales from around the world and turns them into music-filled, high-production-value radio plays featuring big(ish)-name actors. They're less than half an hour long and generally have some kind of moral ending with a bunch of talking points for kids and parents.

<u>CBeebies Radio</u> Popular shows such as Molly and Mack, Something Special and Ferne and Rory's Pet Tales do lose something edited into audio-only formats (there's a reason radio doesn't do a lot of documentaries about animals) but CBeebies-devoted kids will love it.

<u>The Creeping Hour</u> This horror anthology series (think: Tales From The Crypt, Amazing Stories or The Twilight Zone) has only just launched, but seems like an absolute go-to for fans of Goosebumps and the grislier side of everything.

Best kids podcasts for music

The Saturday Morning Cereal Bowl Got kids who love music? Regularly in the car for a while? The Saturday Morning Cereal Bowl offers weekly two-hour curated playlists of kid-friendly music with a quirky indie sensibility. It's more They Might Be Giants than Baby Shark, plus every so often there'll be a Ramones track to keep the grown-ups awake.

<u>Spare The Rock, Spoil The Child</u> "Indie music for indie kids", this weekly hour of family-friendly music is equal parts tunes specifically made for kids (Caspar Babypants and so on) and tunes for grown-ups that there's no reason for kids not to like (Elvis Costello, Frank Turner and Guided By Voices have all featured). They also regularly get artists in for exclusive live sessions.

Best kids podcasts for learning

<u>Wow in the World</u> Made by NPR (think: Serial and This American Life), Wow in the World is a science podcast aimed at "curious kids and their grown-ups". It looks at technology and innovation along with plenty of appealingly gross subjects like bug-eating.

<u>Short & Curly</u> Despite having literally the worst title of any podcast ever (especially one aimed at kids approaching puberty), Short & Curly is a fascinating look at the world of ethics. If you've got the sort of thoughtful offspring that wonder whether robots should have rights, this is one for them.

<u>Everything Under The Sun</u> The first QI Elf ever hired, and the author of three books, Molly Oldfield tackles questions from kids such as why rainbows are as colourful as they are, why flamingos like standing on one leg and whether different kinds of whales can communicate with each other. Guest experts have included historian Dan Snow and children's author Oliver Jeffers. The show also recently bagged a British Podcast Award.

<u>Brains On!</u> Featuring a different child co-host every week, Brains On! aims to answer kids' questions about the world of science – everything from 'why are cats so weird?' to 'which animals fart the most?'

<u>You're Dead To Me</u> Greg Jenner, the resident historian on CBBC's BAFTA-winning Horrible Histories, brings comedians and historians together to talk about the past with all the grotty bits left in.

<u>Pants On Fire</u> A game show not dissimilar to a fact-based Would I Lie To You?, Pants On Fire sees kids grilling two experts, one of whom tells the truth while the other lies. It's all intended to encourage critical thinking skills in an age of disinformation and 'fake news', but provides plenty of laughs along the way.

Best short podcasts for kids

<u>Six Minutes</u> An endlessly unfolding drama told in handy six-minute instalments (ideal for a short school run or a "by the time this episode is over, this room had better be tidy" situation), Six Minutes is a suspense-filled adventure serving up cliffhanger after cliffhanger for almost two hundred episodes (and counting).

<u>Chompers</u> A twice-daily two-minute podcast, Chompers is designed exclusively to be listened to while children brush their teeth. It's also Alexa-enabled, and keeps track of tooth-brushing streaks – we live in the future. It's filled with jokes, riddles and songs to make dental care something to look forward to.

Favourite

My current Favourite podcast is from the BBC World Service. Its brilliant. Series one tells of the initial journey to the moon and the first moon landing on Apollo 11. Season 2 tells of the amazing story of the ill fated Apollo 13 and how they got the astronauts home in a crippled space ship using 1960's

technology.



Also from the BBC (Click the underlined title for a direct link)

The Reith Lectures

The BBC Radio 4 podcast The Reith Lectures is delivered by leading thinkers on topics from the future of medicine, the power of music and humanities relationship with war. It's informative, accessible and always interesting to listen to as they are delivered in an engaging way with great topics.

All BBC podcasts can be found at the following link. There are some excellent ones in here, educational, light hearted and serious. Also, in BBC Sounds, you can get links to stories from most genres including fashion, music and sport.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts

Finally, for those a little more adventurous, the following links contain some excellent podcasts for you to have a go at.

https://collegeinfogeek.com/best-podcasts/

https://www.nesta.org.uk/blog/10-best-podcasts-get-you-thinking/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI9pGJ6eOn6AIVUcjeCh3OvghBEAAYASAAEgLTIPD_BwE

Enjoy!!