

KIDS & FAMILY · FREE RESOURCE

Metal Detecting With Children

A full safety guide for planning a safe, short and enjoyable detecting trip with younger detectorists.

What's inside

- ✓ Clear, practical steps you can use straight away
- 📄 Written for real UK detecting, not theory
- 📄 Plain-English guidance, checked against official sources
- ☆ Free to print, keep and share



Written by
detectorists



Checked against
UK guidance



Free to print and
keep

The adult is responsible at all times

An adult confirms permission, site rules and hazards, and approves every digging location. An adult handles any unknown, sharp or unsafe object. Stop for suspected ordnance, human remains or a group of objects and follow the correct process.

✓ **Plan the trip**

- ☐ Choose a safe, legal location with permission
- ☐ Set a short session length
- ☐ Check the weather and daylight
- ☐ Bring water, snacks and hand-washing
- ☐ Agree an emergency contact and meeting point

Equipment

- ☐ Age-appropriate detector and tools
- ☐ Gloves for the child
- ☐ High-visibility clothing where useful
- ☐ First-aid kit and a charged phone
- ☐ A plan if anyone is overdue

Hazards to check for

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Roads and traffic | ☐ Deep holes and uneven ground |
| ☐ Water, tides and cliffs | ☐ Heat, cold and sun |
| ☐ Livestock and machinery | ☐ Ticks in long grass |
| ☐ Electric fences | ☐ Sharp litter and glass |

What children must NOT handle

Children do not touch these

Broken glass, needles, sharp metal, leaking batteries, chemicals, firearms, weapons or suspected ordnance. If a child finds any of these, an adult takes over: for ordnance or weapons, do not touch, move away and call the police.

☆ Make it fun and safe

- ☐ Turn each find into a mini-record activity
- ☐ Celebrate ordinary finds, not just 'treasure'
- ☐ Let them dig and recover under supervision
- ☐ Wash hands before eating; no hand-to-mouth contact
- ☐ Keep sessions short and end on a high
- ☐ An adult handles every unknown find

Privacy for children

- ☐ Keep children's names, photos and exact locations private
- ☐ Use a site nickname or code, not the real place name

Keep sessions short and positive

Younger detectorists lose interest quickly. An hour of fun with a few finds beats a long, tiring day.

This resource is provided for general information and personal record-keeping. Rules, official guidance and access arrangements can change. Check the current requirements for the place where you intend to detect.

Get more free metal detecting guides, templates and practical advice at DetectoristWorld.com