

Learning every day in every way through play

# Play time

Everyday routines



While your child is playing on their own or with siblings, they are learning. Children benefit from long periods of play where they can explore their ideas, problem-solve, use their imagination and practice new skills.

A few ways you can support your child's learning while they are playing include:

- Give your child time to engage in play that they choose. Try to avoid telling them how to play with something or what to play with.
- If your child is engaging in imaginative play, ask them questions about what is happening in the play scenario to extend their thinking.
- Ask what role you can play and support your child's pretend play by getting in character and joining in.
- Role model different ways of doing things or using the materials in the play.

What children are learning:

- Imagination and creativity
- Problem solving and persistence
- Making sense of the world around them
- Collaboration and co-operation in play
- Love of play and learning