



## Fun things to do at home

### EYFS Development Matters Statements - Specific areas of learning birth to three

For children demonstrating learning and development behaviours noted in the left-hand column, here are some suggestions of 'fun things to do at home'. This will help children consolidate their developmental stage in the prime areas of learning and support them to acquire new skills or concepts.

Literacy	Things to do	Things you may need
<p>Enjoy sharing books with an adult.</p> <p>Pay attention and respond to the pictures or the words.</p> <p>Have favourite books and seek them out, to share with an adult, with another child, or to look at alone.</p> <p>Notice some print, such as the first letter of their name, a bus or door number, or a familiar logo.</p> <p>Ask questions about the book. Makes comments and shares their own ideas.</p> <p>Develop play around favourite stories using props.</p> <p>Repeat words and phrases from familiar stories.</p> <p>Enjoy songs and rhymes, tuning in and paying attention.</p> <p>Join in with songs and rhymes, copying sounds, rhythms, tunes and tempo.</p> <p>Say some of the words in songs and rhymes.</p> <p>Copy finger movements and other gestures.</p> <p>Sing songs and say rhymes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to choose books to look at together.</li> <li>• Let your child use their toys to help them retell the story that you have shared.</li> <li>• When you read a story that your child knows very well, stop at different parts and them tell you the missing word or familiar phrase.</li> <li>• Sing favourite songs or nursery rhymes together</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A range of books in boxes or baskets</li> <li>• Soft toys or small world play figures</li> <li>• A few familiar books</li> <li>• Familiar songs/good repertoire of nursery rhymes.</li> </ul>

independently, for example, singing whilst playing.		
<p>Enjoy drawing freely.</p> <p>Add some marks to their drawings, which they give meaning to. For example: "That says mummy."</p> <p>Make marks on their picture to stand for their name.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draw and paint with your child and let them see what you are doing.</li> <li>• When you write a shopping list or complete a form, give your child a piece of paper so that they can copy you using their own marks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paper, card, paints, pencils, crayons, chalk.</li> </ul>

Maths	Things to do	Things you may need
<p>React to changes of amount in a group of up to three items.</p> <p>Compare amounts, saying 'lots', 'more' or 'same'.</p> <p>Develop counting-like behaviour, such as making sounds, pointing, or saying some numbers in sequence.</p> <p>Combine objects like stacking blocks and cups. Put objects inside others and take them out again.</p> <p>Build with a range of resources</p> <p>Take part in finger rhymes with numbers.</p> <p>Count in everyday contexts, sometimes skipping numbers - '1-2-3-5.'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make a game of skittles using empty plastic bottles and keep a score of how many skittles you have knocked over. When counting the skittles, slowly count each one out loud for your child to hear. You can write down the scores to compare them throughout your game.</li> <li>• Play a stacking game or make your own with disposable cups. Your child can decorate them with stickers if they wish.</li> <li>• Sing counting rhymes often with your child.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empty plastic bottles and small ball.</li> <li>• Disposable cups</li> <li>• Rhymes such as "Five little men in a Flying Saucer" or "1,2,3,4,5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive".</li> </ul>
<p>Compare sizes, weights etc. using gesture and language - 'bigger/little/smaller', 'high/low', 'tall', 'heavy'.</p> <p>Notice patterns and arrange things in patterns.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Let your child help you with the laundry, let your child help you sort the clothes into groups such as colour or pattern together.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laundry or sock pile.</li> </ul>

Understanding the World	Things to do	Things you may need
<p>Make connections between the features of their family and other families.</p> <p>Notice differences between people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look at family photographs together and talk about the people in them and the events where the photograph took place.</li> <li>Encourage your child to look in a mirror at their own features and chat about the things that are the same and/or different to those of the people they know.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photographs</li> <li>Mirror</li> </ul>
<p>Explore materials with different properties</p> <p>Explore natural materials, indoors and outside.</p> <p>Explore and respond to different natural phenomena in their setting and on trips.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use empty recyclable tubes and add cardboard wheels to make cars or trains or use old socks and stuff with cotton wool to make different animals. You can use old buttons for eyes. Make up a story game using your new creations.</li> <li>Go on a nature hunt collecting twigs, stones, leaves, and flowers. Arrange these into pictures once home.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cardboard tubes and/or empty containers. Old socks; cotton wool; needle and thread; old beads and buttons.</li> <li>Natural materials; paper and glue.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enjoy an easy cooking activity using new foods and different herbs and spices such as egg fried rice; spring rolls, crepes, Greek salad, tomato pasta, chicken satay, pizza. Talk about the country the recipe is from and expand on this by providing fun facts – use a map of the world to show where the country is.</li> </ul>	World recipes from cookbooks from the library; friends and family or internet

Expressive Arts and Design	Things to do	Things you may need
<p>Show attention to sounds and music.</p> <p>Respond emotionally and physically to music when it changes.</p> <p>Move and dance to music.</p> <p>Explore their voices and enjoy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather utensils and pans from your kitchen cupboard and make a band, allowing your child to create different sounds. Add songs' rhymes and dance moves to your sounds to increase their excitement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pots; pans; baking sheets, metal spoons, chopsticks and rubber utensils.</li> </ul>

<p>making sounds.</p> <p>Join in with songs and rhymes, making some sounds.</p> <p>Make rhythmical and repetitive sounds.</p> <p>Explore a range of sound-makers and instruments and play them in different ways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make your own instruments by filling empty plastic bottles with dried rice or pasta</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycling materials such as plastic bottles, cardboard tubes, dried pasta and rice</li> </ul>
<p>Notice patterns with strong contrasts and be attracted by patterns resembling the human face.</p> <p>Start to make marks intentionally.</p> <p>Use their imagination as they consider what they can do with different materials</p> <p>Explore paint, using fingers and other parts of their bodies as well as brushes and other tools.</p> <p>Express ideas and feelings through making marks, and sometimes give a meaning to the marks they make.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a craft box and draw, paint and mark make with your child.</li> <li>• Talk about your creations, allowing your child to describe what they have made.</li> <li>• Ask you child to try to draw themselves or their family. Show them how by using simple stick people which you can then expand on once their ability increases.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Different types of paint, pens, pencils, crayons, paper, glue and children’s scissors</li> </ul>