



Learning Through Play at Home



**Learning Experiences
for Children and Families**

Learning Through Play at Home

In Kindergarten, learning happens when adults intentionally listen and respond to what children say and do during play.



We would like to share some exciting ways that you and your child can learn and play together in the time leading up to Kindergarten.

Learning Through Play at Home

We can **build**
when we play.



Children use size, shape and balance when they build. This helps children see math in their play experiences.

You and your child can:

- explore balance by placing different materials on top of each other.
- build a structure together.
- have a conversation about the structure using descriptive words (e.g., below, on top, behind, next to).
- talk about the height and size of a structure.

Learning Through Play at Home

We can **read**
when we play.



Children use reading behaviours when they play (e.g., pretending to read a menu or a picture book). This helps children see themselves as readers who recognize that pictures and words contain messages.

You and your child can:

- read books, magazines, signs, instructions, and recipes together.
- talk about your favourite part of a story.
- read together in your home language(s).
- find the letters of your names in a book.

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We can **create** when we play.



When children are creating, they use a variety of materials and experiment with colours, shapes, textures, lines, movements and sounds in various ways. This promotes children's imagination while building self-esteem and a sense of accomplishment.

You and your child can:

- explore different materials (e.g., sticks, mud, paint, playdough, scissors, fabric, empty containers and boxes).
- talk about how you are using lines, shapes and colours.
- talk about your ideas as you are exploring materials and being creative.

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We can **move**
when we play.



When children play, they use small and large muscles to move in a variety of ways. Daily movement promotes enjoyment of being active and healthy.

You and your child can:

- run, climb, walk, skip, and balance together.
- find the beat when listening to music.
- move materials in different ways (e.g., pushing and pulling).
- play with small objects (e.g., stacking, beading, rolling dough).

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We can **share our ideas** when we play.



When sharing ideas, thoughts and feelings in different ways, children develop a deeper understanding of the world, others and themselves. This builds strong communication skills.

You and your child can:

- talk about the things you see (e.g., notice the numbers, letters and words on signs).
- spend time each day talking and listening to each other in your home language.
- talk about how you use gestures and facial expressions when sharing your thoughts and ideas with others.

Learning Through Play at Home

How does your **family play together?**



Now that you have more ideas about play and learning, we invite you to try some of them at home.

Draw a picture or take a photo of what you enjoyed doing. Consider sharing your drawing or photo with your new friends and educators when you come to school.

Learning Through Play at Home

Please visit our website for more information about

- Kindergarten Program and Routines
- Helpful Suggestions for Transitions
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Child Care

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- Visiting your school website

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