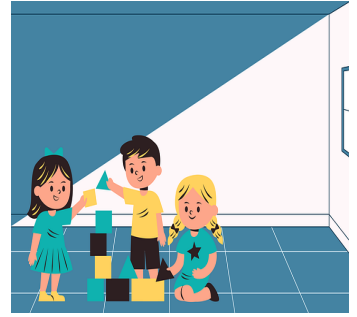


How you can help your child



Your child learns and develops rapidly during the important early years of their life. During this time, the home learning environment has significant impact on children's development and their ability and willingness to learn.

By making sure you talk, listen and play with your child, involve them in a wide range of activities as part of their daily routine, and help them investigate the world around them, you can help give them the best possible start in life.

You can help your child to learn by playing together and:

- Encouraging them to be independent e.g; getting dressed and washing hands.
- Giving them opportunities to share and join in with other children.
- Going out for walks or visits, and talking about what you see.
- Helping them develop literacy skills by reading to them every day, learning nursery rhymes together and reading familiar words to them.
- Helping them develop number skills by encouraging them to count and use numbers e.g; counting up and down the stairs, pairing up socks or collecting stones and putting them in order size.
- Supporting, encouraging and listening to them as they express themselves, talk about their thoughts and ideas and how they're feeling.
- Singing, dancing, painting and having fun together.
- Giving them opportunities to use their fingers and hands e.g; building with bricks, cutting with scissors, fastening zips and buttons.
- Finding out what they're doing at nursery or school and think about what you could do to build on this.
- Talking to the staff working with your child and share information with them.
- Asking for extra help if you think your child needs it for any reason.
- Remember to praise their efforts.

