

This pack contains ideas to support the development and education of your child, even though they aren't in school. There are no expectations for all activities and tasks to be completed. However, the more you can do with your child, the more they will benefit. Please complete the activities with your child to support them.

I hope all goes well. This is an unprecedented situation but we are committed to ensuring your child still progresses. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to email me on the below address:

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Many thanks,

Mr. Gillespie

The Early Years curriculum is split into 7 areas – 3 'Prime Areas' and 4 'Specific Areas'.

This pack contains ideas for what you and your child could do to develop each of these ideas. Although these are recommended activities, feel free to come up with your own. Especially if your child takes an interest in doing something not mentioned in this pack.

Prime Areas:

Communication & Language

This area is tied to your child's ability to speak, listen, communicate, and follow instructions.

- Read stories to you child.
- Act out stories together.
- Ask your child to verbally tell you a story.
- Complete activities together that involve following instructions:
 - eg. cooking, baking, cleaning, loading the dishwasher, draw a picture step-by-step, dot to dots, etc.
- Encourage your child to follow multi-step instructions:
 - eg. 'get a pencil, then draw a tree', 'find some socks, then put them on'.

Physical Development

This area is tied to your child's ability to move and complete physical tasks. This includes both large, gross motor movements (running, jumping, etc) and smaller, fine motor movements (holding a pencil, using scissors).

- Play in the garden. Encourage a range of movements:
 - eg. running, jumping, hopping, crawling, stretching, walking, climbing.
- Watch yoga videos (search 'Cosmic Kids Yoga' on YouTube), and join in.
- Build large structures out of boxes, blocks, etc.
 - House/castle/farm/zoo/beach/boat/pirate ship/hotel/school.
- Draw pictures.
- Dot to dots.
- Colouring.
- Cutting out with scissors.
- Play dough (You can make your own. Recipes online).
- Building LEGO.
- Playing with pegs (they can help peg out washing).
- Pinching activities (picking up rice, sorting small beads).

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This area is tied to your child's ability to relate to others, manage their feelings and emotions, and having self-confidence. This area is harder to develop at home as it so often requires social interaction.

- Child draw a daily picture of how they felt today.
 - They can draw when they were happy, sad, angry, tired, etc.
- Draw pictures of their friends/family/teachers.
- Write letters/make cards to give their friends/family/teachers when back in school.
- Draw themselves doing what they are good at.
 - Drawing themselves playing football, singing, etc.

Specific Areas:

Literacy

This area is tied to your child's ability to read and write. I have split this section into Nursery and Reception as there are very different expectations on each. Please complete the age-relevant activities.

Nursery:

- Read a book to your child.
- Draw their favourite character or page from a book you've read together.
- Puppet show of stories they've read.
- Draw a picture to show what they've done that day.
 - They can label key parts of the picture ('me, mum, dad, car, TV, window' etc).
- Give your child a picture (forest, ocean, dessert, school, etc) and your child can write key words of what they see.
- Write key words to describe a person, event, or place.

* Focus on supporting your child to hear the first sound in words. For example, if they want to write 'piano', say the word slowly so that they can identify that the word starts with a 'p'. You can then tell them the rest of the letters.

Reception:

- Read a book to your child.
- Have your child read their school books to you.
- Draw their favourite character or page from a book you've read together.
- Create a story map of a book you've read together.
 - Your child should know how to do this. They can show you.
- Write about a book they've read.
- Puppet show of stories they've read.
- Write about what they've done that day.
- Give your child a picture (forest, ocean, dessert, school, etc) and your child can write sentences of what they see.
- Write to describe a person, event, or place.
- Practise their handwriting by copying your writing as neatly as possible.
 - Write a simple sentence for your child to copy – 'The red cat ran through the park'.

Mathematics

This area is tied to your child's understanding of numbers, shapes, and measure. I have split this section into Nursery and Reception as there are very different expectations on each. Please complete the age-relevant activities.

Nursery:

- Basic counting tasks, up to 10.
 - Order numbers to make a number line.
 - Play games with the number line:
 - Turn over a number and ask your child to say which number it is.
 - Point to a number and ask which number is one more, or one less.
 - Get groups of small objects (cars, beans, beads, buttons, coins, etc) for games:
 - Count how many objects in a group.
 - 'Which group is bigger/smaller?'
 - Discuss different 2D and 3D shapes.
 - 'How many sides/corners/faces does this shape have?'
 - Ask your child to find objects in the house that are a certain shape (square, circle, etc).
 - Line up different objects. 'Which is longer/shorter?'
 - Order objects by length/height/width.
- * Any objects will do. String, thread, wool, pencils, raw spaghetti all works well.

Reception:

- Basic counting tasks, up to 20.
 - Order numbers to make a number line.
 - Play games with the number line:
 - Turn over a number and ask your child to say which number it is.
 - Point to a number and ask which number is one more, or one less.
 - Get groups of small objects (cars, beans, beads, buttons, coins, etc) for games:
 - Create two small groups and ask your child to add them together.
 - 'Which group is bigger/smaller?'
 - Ask your child to make two equal groups. 'How many are in each group?'
- * For the addition activities, ask your child to write down the correct number sentence, eg. '4 + 6 = 10'
- Create number sentences using dice. Roll the dice, write down the number. Roll the dice, write down the number. Add the two numbers together.
 - Discuss different 2D and 3D shapes.
 - 'How many sides/corners/faces does this shape have?'
 - Ask your child to find objects in the house that are a certain shape (square, circle, etc).
 - Line up different objects. 'Which is longer/shorter?'
 - Order objects by length/height/width.
- * Any objects will do. String, thread, wool, pencils, raw spaghetti all works well.

Understanding the World

This area is tied to your child's understanding of History, Geography, culture, technology, and the general world around them.

- Look at pictures of past holidays and discuss them.
- Look at maps on Google maps/in an atlas. Discuss different places. How they are similar/different.
- Create a family tree together using pictures/drawings of each person.
- Show your child pictures of them as a baby and discuss what they were like.
- Teach them when their birthday was (including their birth year).
- Play games on tablets or laptops (CBBC and Top Marks have great educational games).
- Ask them to take photos of certain objects/people in the house.
- Child to build a house/castle/farm/zoo/beach/boat/pirate ship/hotel/school.
 - This could be out of blocks, boxes, anything.
 - This could also be done with technology (eg. Minecraft).
- Read non-fiction books about different jobs people do.
- Show them pictures of different jobs (police, fireman, postman, chef, teacher, cleaner, baker, lawyer, etc) and discuss.
- Show them pictures of your job, and explain to them what you do each day.

* Child can draw picture or write about any of these tasks. This is a good way for them to express what they've learnt and enjoyed.

Expressive Arts and Design

This area is tied to your child's imagination and artistic skill. This includes art, music, acting, story writing, storytelling, building, and any creative activity.

- Draw pictures.
- Painting.
- Play dough/plasticine/clay.
- Reading stories.
- Listening to Music.
- Dancing (follow dances on YouTube).
- Playing instruments (if you have any).
- Making instruments (great ideas online).
- Junk modelling (create structures out of boxes and recycling).
- Role-play.
- Acting out stories.
- Cooking.
- Baking.
- Write a story.
- Draw a story.
- Puppet shows.