

Ideas for Home Garden Room

Children love reading! Read to your child everyday:

- Ask your child to talk about the pictures in the book.
- Encourage them to join in with the repeated parts of the story.
- Ask them to guess what is going to happen next.
- Talk about the story, characters and plot and ask questions.
- Think of different endings to the story.
- Ask your child to use the pictures in the book to make up the story.
- You could also make up your own stories together - without
- Be an author and write your own books.

Children love singing. There are lots of number songs and rhymes you can sing, Five Naughty Monkeys, Five Little Ducks, 10 Green Bottles, 5 Current Buns. If you don't know them, ask your children to sing them to you! Act out the songs with family members or toys. Use number cards to match to the numbers as you sing them.

Children love putting their things in containers and sharing with friends (whether equally or not!). You could provide different objects that are small enough for the children to hold in their hands; count them out; share them equally; describe their shapes, colours or what they look like. You could also get your child to hide objects in a container and describe them for you to guess.

Children love making camps - Use sheets, blankets and furniture to make a camp for your child to hide in. You can make up different games, pretend you are hiding in the monster's lair, the fairy castle etc.

Children love making models - Give your child some empty packets, boxes and sellotape. Help them to make different models you could make vehicles, towers, robots...anything! Ask your child to talk about the things their model can do and how they made it.

Children love playing shop - Use groceries, clothes or shoes to make different shops with your child. Give them real money to use. Take turns to play different roles, for example, the shop keeper and the customer. Count out the items and talk about the different costs, money and giving change. You could practise writing numbers by making price tags. Make shopping lists or labels for the items in the shop.

Children love puppets! Make some finger puppets and get the puppets to talk to, tell stories or sing with your child to help promote speech and language. Have fun and be silly, no one is watching!

Give baby a massage - There's no need to attend a class to help a class to do this.. Watch a few YouTube videos and then get down to some wonderful bonding time together.

Sensory Play - Use some old plastic bottles and put inside beads, pasta, bits of foil paper etc. Children love exploring things like this. Use all the pots and pans in the kitchen to make music! You could make shakers by putting pasta in cups. Make as much noise as possible!

Children love being messy - Mix together flour and water and let your child explore and make different marks. Freeze some of your child's toys in ice and then let them explore as they try and get them out. Make jelly and let your child play with it. You could put food colouring in water and encourage your child to splash, paint or put in spray bottles to make marks.

Children love baking and making! - Make your own playdough or salt dough (this will go hard overnight) you can find recipes online. Spend time baking or encouraging your child to help with the cooking. They can help to chop the vegetables, stir the mixture or weigh out the ingredients. Roll your toy cars or trucks in paint and then make pictures with them.

Baby Yoga - They develop through yoga poses, which can aid in their gross and fine motor skills. Yoga helps to improve sleeping patterns both in duration and frequency, as well as encourages sleeping through the night. There are a number of videos you can find online.

Stay Active - Have a funky moving session at home. Encourage your child to hop, jump, roll, stretch, move in any way you can! Play music and have a dance party! You can count as you do this.

Children love being independent - Spend time helping your child to dress and undress by themselves. If your child is not toilet trained and is ready, spend time supporting your child to use the toilet.

Children often enjoy hunting. Set your child with timed tasks. For example, you have 10 seconds to find anything in the house that is a circle shape (clock, cup etc) See how many shapes you can find around the house. Draw round different objects to make shape pictures, for example, tins to make circles. Ask your child to go on a number hunt around the house, where can they find numbers? On packaging, clocks etc. Challenge them to find specific numbers or numbers in order. Give your child a letter written on a piece of paper, see if they can find the same letter anywhere in the house, for example, on a book, packet etc. Ask the child to go and find all the objects in the



house that begin with that sound. Go on a text hunt and find any writing anywhere you can, talk about what it says and means.