Focus for the Week 1: Staying healthy while we play and learn

Have fun! Learn about positions

For PARENTS

WASH TABLES AND TOYS
The Coronavirus (COVID-19) stays on hard surfaces for quite some time! Our hands touch many surfaces and objects every day. This is how germs and viruses get from these surfaces and objects to our hands – then when we touch our eyes, nose or mouth, these germs and viruses enter our bodies.

Make sure that you wash your table, the toys, door handles every day with soap and water. Involve the children in the cleaning of the tables and chairs and help them to understand how important it is to keep all the surfaces clean.

GAMES ARE IMPORTANT FOR CHILDREN
When children play games, they learn so many different skills like:
- taking turns and sharing;
- solving problems;
- learning new words;
- how to play with others;
- how to count;
- making their big muscles and small muscles strong;
- how to balance;
- and many more

Today’s colour is GREEN
Find everything in the house that is green. Your child can point out the object or bring it to you. If they don’t know the name of the object, help them.

Learning together is FUN

Here are some playful activities to do with your young child today (and other days too)

Getting active in the morning
Hopscotch: Hopscotch: Make a hopscotch grid with numbers from 1 to 5. For the younger children jump from one number to the next on both feet. Older children can try to jump on one foot. Babies can watch and enjoy the game being played. If there is a child with a disability, he or she can be involved in an appropriate manner.

For children it feels good to move and this is a fun and playful way to develop new skills. When playing hopscotch children learn to control different body parts and how to balance; they learn hand-eye coordination and spatial awareness (how far apart things are); they learn social skills, for example to take turns; and this game involves numbers and counting skills that are important for mathematics.

BOOK OF THE DAY

The Amazing Daisy is a book about a little chicken called Daisy, who wishes she could fly. All the other chickens laugh at her daily flying practice. But one day something amazing happens.


SOURCE: Bookdash

Younger than 18 months
While baby is sitting safely, let her take objects out of a tin/basket and then put some back. This allows your baby to use all her senses; hearing, smell, touch, seeing and tasting to link with the things around her.

BATH TIME
The end of the day can become quite hectic when you are trying to make sure that everything is done. You have been with the children all day long and all you want is some peace and quiet. Play some soothing music or sing some songs together so that you can settle your child before she gets ready to go to bed.

18 months to 36 months
Your child follows instructions, for example stand next to the table, stand on the mat, hide behind the chair; stand in front of or behind the door. She talks about where she is standing.

It is very important that you child understands space, position and size as it is the foundation for future learning in Mathematics and Language.

3 to 5 years
Let an older child put objects into the positions, for example put a red block next to you; put a yellow block behind you; put the red block on top of the blue block; put the yellow block in front of the green one. She explains where the objects are, for example where is the red block? Next to me, in front of me, behind me. This helps your child to understand space, colours, numbers which are the foundation of Mathematics.

HEALTHY HABITS
Read to your child every day.

Remember to keep it PLAYFUL and FUN. That is how young children learn.