



Early Years - Learning at Home 2

January 2021



Play and Talk is all you need.



Things to Remember

- Everyday real life tasks are good learning experiences.
- Play and talk is all you need.
- See the world through your child's eyes, to a child the world is still a wonder and something to explore and learn about.
- You have been doing this job since they day they were born, you do not have to become a teacher during this time.
- Let the children lead - it might get messy but that is OK.
- Do not let social media, websites, resources etc. become a burden or a standard to live up to. They are just ideas to support you, not an expectation.
- Have fun and enjoy this time talk, listen, read, laugh, sing, dance, play, cuddle!

Learning from Home

While your nursery is only physically open to children of key-workers and our most vulnerable children we will be supporting your child's learning through providing a selection of suggested areas to explore with your child, all based around a story you can access online.

However, we would like to stress these are optional and are there to be a support and not a burden. At home your child will learn from you through talking, listening, helping and playing with you.

These will (on purpose) be mostly things you might do anyway with resources you already have – but you may not know how rich they are in learning for your child. They are just ideas for if you are stuck or wondering what to do, so please pick and choose.

We are all here to help, always just get in touch with your nursery.

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Other Useful General Resources:

Parent club— <https://www.parentclub.scot/>

Play Scotland— <https://www.playscotland.org/parents-families/>

Education Scotland Parentzone— <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/covid19/be-at-the-heart-of-your-child-s-learning-during-covid-19/>

BBC— <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Bumps to Bairns—<https://bumps2bairns.com/>

Julia Donaldson home learning packs— <https://resource-bank.scholastic.co.uk/content/FREE-Julia-Donaldson-and-Axel-Scheffler-Home-Learning-Packs-40114>

Being me with Dug— <http://www.e-sgoil.com/earlyyears20/>

Book Bug— <https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug>

1. Smartest Giant in Town by Julia Donaldson

Cosy up and listen to this wonderful online story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfiPrA8E3qE>

Activity:

Talk to each other about the clothes you are wearing, are either of you wearing clothes that the Giant did?



2. Investigate Floating and Sinking

Activity

George uses his clothes to help a boat which is floating. What other things float? Gather household items, fill the kitchen/bathroom sink, or a basin of water and see what floats/sinks. You could estimate /guess first, and even record results on a piece of paper.

Throughout the Day

When washing up you could float and sink safe items, e.g. plastic cups, cutlery and talk about why crockery may not be a good idea! At bath time, try to float and sink all sorts of waterproof items, e.g. toys and old bottles. What happens if you add a lego man to a boat? Or fill a bottle with water?

Useful Words to Use

- experiment
- record
- estimate
- float
- sink



3. Set up a Clothes Shop

Activity

Set up a Giant's Clothes Shop. You could make a sign for the shop, make price tags for the things you will sell. Perhaps you could make some pretend money or find things to use instead of coins e.g. stones, paper. Play pretend shops, taking turns to be the shopkeeper and then the giant, buying some new clothes to wear!

Throughout the Day

When sorting out the washing, or hanging it up, talk about different items of clothing—could they be used by an animal in a different way? Talk about how the clothes we wear are similar/different to the giant. When getting ready for a walk talk about what clothes we wear in the different seasons.

Useful Words to Use

- same
- different
- winter
- spring
- purchase
- money
- coins
- notes
- cash
- card payment

“Remember these are only some ideas. Talk, play, let the child lead and most importantly have fun together!”

4. Make a Crown

Activity

Make and decorate crowns using paper, cardboard, paints, crayons. Experiment with sticking on shapes and odd bits of leftover recycling. Can you make it fit on your head? Make up a story about who you are and why you are wearing a crown.

Throughout the Day

Can you use some different items around your home as crown/hats? E.g. pans, colanders, towels, socks—have fun experimenting!

Useful Words to Use

- decorate
- large
- small
- tight
- loose
- measurement

5. Take Giant Steps and Explore Measurement

Activity

Have fun taking giant steps..... Count how many giant steps it takes to walk to the kitchen door, the end of the path. Count how many of your foot-steps it takes to do the same? Record your information in a table/graph or tally chart.

Throughout the Day

Keep measuring throughout the day everywhere you walk! Compare your giant steps—are they the same? Is someone's longer?

Useful Words to Use

- measurement
- distance
- longer
- shorter
- tally marks
- graph



Other Ideas:



Questions You Might Ask...

- Think about what giants look like and find some words to describe them. Talk about what makes a giant different to you and your family.
- Talk about size... who is the biggest/smallest person in your family.
- Which are the tallest /shortest animals in the story?
- Have you ever felt sad like George? What made you feel like that and what helped you to feel better?
- How do you think the animals felt before they met George?
- How do you think the animals felt after they met George?

Make a House for a Toy

Can you make a house for a little animal or toy?...What will you use? Can you find things around your home to help you to make it?



“Be kind to yourself you are doing a great job.”

Sing and Dance

Make up a tune to go with George’s song and sing it together.
Make some instruments from recycled materials to play along with:

<https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/homemade-instruments-shaker>



Other Stories About Giants You May Want to Share

Jack and the Beanstalk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zurz-pL-uzw>

The Selfish Giant

<https://www.bedtimeshortstories.com/the-selfish-giant-story>