## Playfully preparing for school [TODDLER



Play is the key way children learn about themselves, others and the world they live in. It is essential to their learning, development, health, and physical, mental and social well-being - and it's FUN! Play provides the building blocks to be ready for school.



# Sharing books

Sharing books with your toddler is a fun activity to include in your child's day.

#### Did you know?

Sitting so that your toddler can see your face and the book helps you and your child connect and supports your child's language development. You get to know what captures their interest and talk about that. Children learn faster if the words match what they are focused on. Children love to be read the same book over and over again. Repetition helps them learn. Books can be a calming activity to share at bedtime.



### **Add language**

Choose books that are appropriate to your child's spoken language. Start with books with short sentences and simple story lines. Try telling stories from picture books in your own words so you can match the length of the story to your child's attention span.

#### **Variations**

Encourage your child to hold the book and turn the pages as you read. Visit your local library to discover new books. Young children feel important when they can have their own library card! You could also visit your local library's rhyme or story time sessions. Check with your local council for session times.

☐ Playgroup WA has a treasure trove of play activities for babies, toddlers and 3-5 year olds, for home and playgroup. These play activities cover a balanced diet of play across sensory, movement, language and thinking skill areas.

You can find them at www.playgroupwa.com.au/playideas or visit www.facebook.com/playgroupwa

