Playfully preparing for school



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 simple story books with children can be a special way to share time together.

Did you know?

Children will become very familiar with their favourite story books being read again and again.

Why not swap roles and ask your child to tell the story to you or take turns? They can use the pictures to tell you a story.



Add language

Start to guess what will happen next in the story or talk about why something happened. Explore together how we know the character is happy, sad, angry, frustrated or jealous.

This helps develop more complex skills such as predicting the story line and recognising emotions.

Variations

Visit your local library to discover new books. Young children feel important when they can have their own library card! You could visit your local library's story time sessions. Check with your local council for session times.

Books are easy to take along on outings for when your child may have to wait. You could try acting out the story from a familiar book. This gives children practice at retelling stories; a skill they will need for school.



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

