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.

Puzzles

Your baby can have lots of fun developing their skills by playing with puzzle-like toys.

Did you know?

Stacking rings or cups, posting boxes and shape sorters help to develop your baby's placement, problem solving and fine motor skills – which are required for completing puzzles later on.

Babies learn to match simple colours and shapes, recognise and sort objects, and develop their memory while playing with puzzle-like toys.

Add language

Match words to the actions your baby is doing e.g. put in/take out, put on/take off. Provide the names for simple shapes and colours as your baby holds or moves them.

Other development

Playgroup

Older babies will enjoy simple form board puzzles – single or only a few large puzzle pieces with knobs, within a frame. These help to develop your baby's eye-hand coordination and early pinch grasp.

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

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