



Play and Learning - Newsletter One

The Birth to Five Matters guidance we follow is a play-based curriculum made up of 7 areas of learning

There are 3 prime areas

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

Physical Development (PD)

Communication and Language (CL)

There are 4 specific areas

Literacy (L)

Mathematics (M)

Understanding the World (UtW)

Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)

Practitioners prepare the pre-school environment to promote learning in all 7 areas.

Our pre-school room is made up of different spaces -

Role-play area

Construction area

Creative area

Small world area

Book Corner

Sand and water area

Music area

Table tops

Outside area

During this newsletter, I want to talk to you about the role-play area and how it links to the 7 areas of learning.

Our role-play area is always set up to mimic a home environment, we often call this the “home corner”. Alongside the home corner, we have other role-play activities set up - most recently a vet’s surgery.

Whether used as a home, vet’s surgery, doctor’s office, hair salon, shop, restaurant or even Santa’s grotto; this area supports all 7 areas of learning. Here are a few ways to demonstrate how...

... Children learn to share and take turns, whilst building relationships with each other. They learn to play with one another, progressing from an independent, onlooker style play, to associative and co-operative play, practising their emerging skills in being imaginative (PSED/EAD)

Children learn new vocabulary modelled by adults and peers and practice using the vocabulary they already have, as they talk to each other during play (CL)

Children learn self-help skills such as independently using the dressing up clothes (PD)



Children learn early reading skills with recipe books and the logos on old food boxes. Children practice early writing skills as they make marks to represent a shopping list or recipe. Books are readily available in this area, such as about a new baby, how to use the potty or about families (L) (UtW)

It is a place where the children can practice their early maths skills as they share food between their friends, understanding who has more, less or the same and children count, measure and weigh. They are exposed to numbers that they begin to recognise (M)

Children may imitate things they have seen at home in their community, in books or on TV as they begin to make sense of the world around them (UTW)

We love learning through PLAY!