

People and Communities

Why this is important:

This is an important activity for pre-school children as it supports the foundations of early attachment and building relationships. Children learn about the world around them through talking to you and family, developing an interest in their own story too.

Try to do this activity every day for about 10 minutes per session. Choose a time when your child is not tired or hungry.

Before you start:

Collect the items you need to have to hand for easy access ensuring you have your child's full attention

8-20m

The beginnings of understanding of People and Communities lie in early attachment and other relationships. Nurturing at this stage is so important

- Choose a comfy spot to sit with your child and talk to them, making sure they are face to face, use soothing tones and intonation, talk about what you are doing or have been doing, the sounds you can hear together, encourage mimicking or sounds copied back to you

16-26m

"Enjoys pictures and stories about themselves, their families and other people"

- Sit together in a comfy corner and look at family photos, talk about who is in the picture, what they are doing, remembering special times together. Point to the people and objects, what can you see? Who is that? What are they doing...?

22-36m

"Learns that they have similarities and differences that connect them to, and distinguish them, from others"

- Sit together and create a "familiar faces" basket, a memory box of special people to you, talk about who is special to you and why. Use a mirror to really look at each other and talk about family features...freckles, same or different eye colour, dimples.... curly hair...what makes us the same and yet different and unique too

30-50m

"Shows an interest in the lives of people who are familiar to them"

- Make a family tree together, collect sticks and leaves from your garden or on a daily walk to create the tree shape. Choose photos together of who is in your family, talking about special relationships to add to the tree

40-60m

“Enjoys joining in with family customs and routines”

- Talk with your child about your current daily routine at home, using pictures from magazines or newspapers, or drawing together, create a visual timeline of your day. For example, at 9am its breakfast, find/draw pictures of various items you would have for breakfast then build up the timeline together.

Early Learning Goal (reached typically by the end of the Reception year)

Early learning goal – people and communities Children talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They know that other children don’t always enjoy the same things and are sensitive to this. They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.