



Engaging Parents with Your Setting using 50 Things to Do Before You're Five – please raise your hand as we go if you have questions!

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Why do we need to Engage Parents?

Working in partnership with parents/families and carers is central to the Early Years Foundation Stage. When parents are actively involved in your early years setting, and their child's learning, research shows that there will be a significant impact on improving children's learning

Birth to Five Matters

“Regardless of the quality of settings, the most important predictor of children's future outcomes is the quality of the home learning environment, so involving parents in their children's learning is the most significant factor in enabling children to do well despite disadvantage. The benefits are greatest when practitioners and families work in respectful partnership to develop ways to support children both at home and in the setting.”



Evidence suggests that what parents do with their children at home child's positively influences their health and wellbeing, as well as being far more impactful to their future achievements than their social class or level of education.

“Children absorb enthusiasm and a positive attitude towards learning from their relationships with adults at home. A parent who feels it is his or her role and believes they can make a difference, models positive interest in learning.” The Impact of Parental Involvement, Parental Support and Family Education on Pupil Achievements and Adjustment, DfES.

“All parents who regularly involve their children in early home learning activities that ‘stretch a child’s mind’ can enhance their children’s learning and development”. Sylva et al - DfE and Institute of Education, University of London.

Early interactions directly affect the way the brain is wired, and early relationships set the ‘thermostat’ for later control of the stress response. This underlines the significance of pregnancy and the first years of life, and the need for mothers and fathers to be supported during this time” Healthy Child Programme: Pregnancy and the first five years of life (HCP) 2009

First, a quick audit...

In your groups share some of the strategies you currently use in **your** setting to engage parents...

Please nominate someone to
feedback



Why use Fifty Things to Do Before You're 5?

- Shows families that your setting prioritises parent partnership
- Highlights that parents are recognised and celebrated in your setting
- Highlights that your setting is raising the bar on parent partnership
- Shows that your setting is going above and beyond to celebrate play
- Shows that your setting recognises the value of play
- Improves outcomes for your children**



The '50 Things to do Before you are 5' project has been particularly successful in increasing the range of experiences you expose the children to before they leave school. You fully integrate this work into the curriculum, involving families and celebrating successes through displays and in children's records. Parents enthuse about the new things they and their children have tried, including dressing up, farm trips and picnics.

OFSTED : Nursery School, Bradford

How can 50 things to Do Before You're Five help?

50 Things to Do Before You're Five recognises that:

- Parents play a very significant role in providing support to develop speech, language and communication
- Families engaging in playful shared experiences create opportunities for communication
- When children have engaged in fun experiences they have something want to share with their peers
- Non-judgemental, playfilled approaches nudge parents to engage in fun shared experiences
- Serve and return interactions strengthen neural connections in the child's brain which support the development of communication and social skills.

Plus it was developed in partnership with Speech & Language professionals



The home learning environment can have a positive impact on a child's communication and language development, and has been shown to have a greater impact on a child's intellectual, social and emotional development than the parent's education, occupation or wealth (Sylva et al, 2004).

What is 50 Things to Do Before You're Five?

...a bucket list of low cost / no cost ideas, supporting play and experiential learning at home and outside

It was conceived in an Outstanding Maintained Nursery School and co-constructed with parents, who have continued to inform its evolution over the past six years.

Supports all aspects of child development, from 20 weeks post conception to five, with a focus on:

Early Language Development

Health

Positive Relationships

Community Cohesion

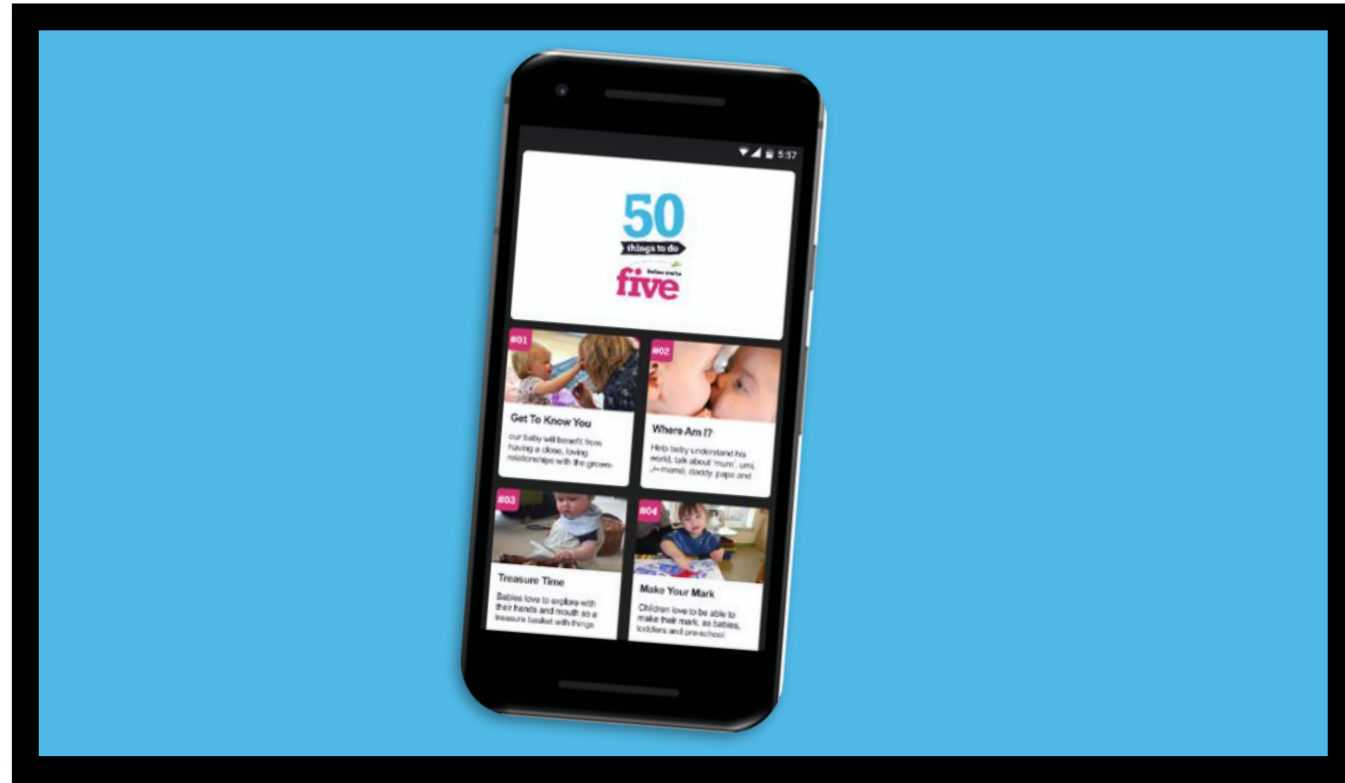
Based on the belief that every parent wants better for their children

Promotes local assets to families of young children

Is free for families and practitioners to use across 24 local areas!



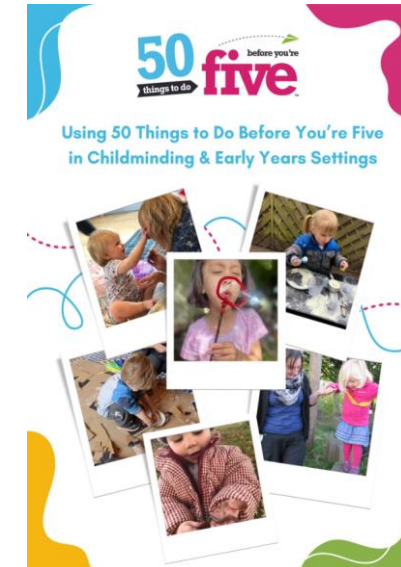
What is 50 Things to Do Before You're Five?



Resources available for you

You can download and print from this link:

[Using 50 Things in EYs settings - National Website](http://www.50thingstodo.org)



Supporting the Home Learning Environment

75%

of settings say parents have engaged with more home learning activities since having 50 Things to Do in their setting



Parents have been documenting on Tapestry (online learning journal) the different things that they have been doing at home from the tasks.

"The children love telling us what they have taken part in at home and they love sharing their photos and stories about what they have got up to."

"They have sent me pictures of the activities they have done and the children have even talked about them."

We have chosen an activity a week to focus on and parents have done the same activity at home. It's also encouraged parents to share with us other activities and experiences their children have been doing at home- it's really enhanced our home-school working relationships

"We cover all the 50 things over the 50 weeks we are open. we have based our planning intent around each one. we then see how the children develop and follow the children's interest. We then send out what 50 things we will be covering and then send out activities they can do at home. Many parent's will upload using the # what they did at home."

Strengthening Relationships

73%

of settings stated it has improved relationships with parents.

“Parents are showing a real interest in completing the 50 Things before their children are five and we have embedded it well into our long term plans. We have seen that they are using it without our input, they are really proud to show us what they have done. We now have lots of photos in the children’s learning journeys of all the nice things which we didn’t before, they are really keen to come and show us what they have done.”

“It has really encouraged joined up thinking with parents, sharing the activities between us.”

“They feel more included in children’s learning.”

“Parents are excited to approach staff and tell them about their weekends with Buddy bear and what they have completed from 50 things to do.”

“There has been a better focus for conversations around next steps.”

“It has helped to build strong partnerships and take learning home.”

“It has given parents who are new to the area an insight into the local community and facilities. Enabling them to meet families from the nursery.”

Supporting Speech and Language Development



“The children love telling us what they have taken part in at home and they love sharing their photos and stories about what they have got up to.”

“We also naturally extend children’s speech and language, they are learning new vocabulary through the different experiences they are having.”

“Using the 50 things App and linking it with tapestry has made a big difference with communication for the children because they are so eager to come and tell the other children what they are doing.”

64%

Of parents said that, since using 50 Things to Do Before You’re 5, they communicate more purposefully with their child whilst they are playing.

62%

of settings have seen increased interactions and/or communication between parents and children since having 50 Things to Do in their setting

86%

of parents said that the 50 Things to Do activities provide different opportunities to communicate with their child.

Improving Practice

66%

Of settings said that, since using the 50 Things to Do Before You're 5, their practice has improved

We have set tasks and also seen improved attendance at our parental engagement sessions.

Staff use the 50 things ideas to implement as part of planning they include parents via tapestry and Facebook when appropriate

Provided me with more ideas of places and activities to do with the children.



We try to link a 50 things to our topic/learning too for parental inspiration.

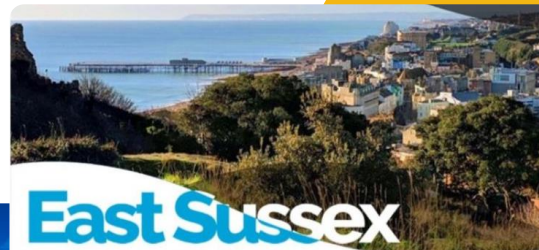
I have been able to provide extra support and ideas for families needing help forming positive relationships

It has helped with sharing home learning and linking what we do at the nursery to the 50 Things as part of our curriculum. this has created more of a holistic approach as parents can really get involved at home.

Localising the Offer

Localising 50 Things to Do enables the celebration of the diversity of individual communities across the country, acknowledging the need for an offer that represents and connects with local people.

- Images of local children reflecting our community
- Images of local architecture and environment
- Links to local places and spaces such as museums, parks and services



Promoting Cultural Capital

50 Things to Do encourages families to build on children's interests and experiences to harness the cultural capital they already have.

Provides children with a sense of place and a greater connection to communities around them

"The children have talked about places they have visited with their parents at the weekend."

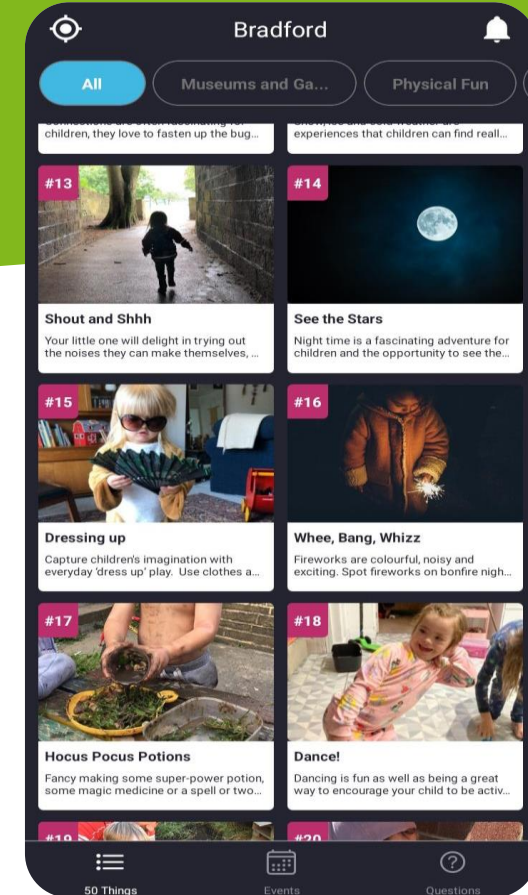
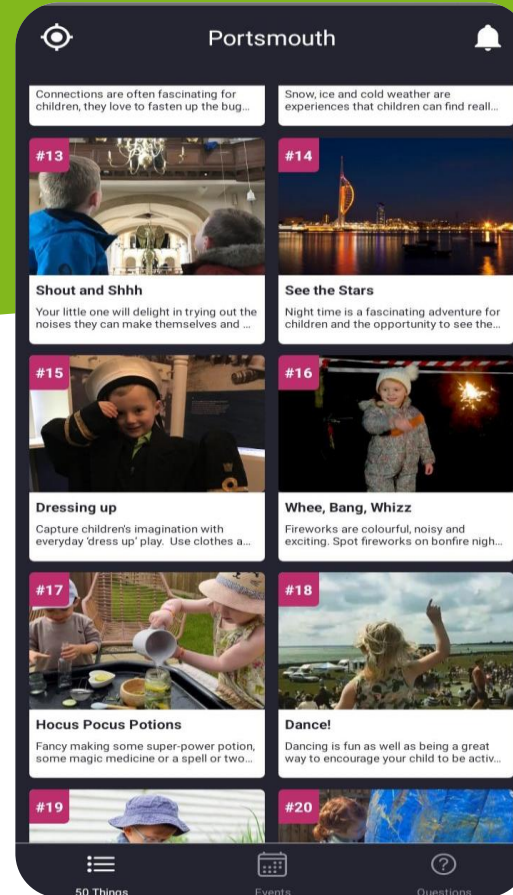
"Through the group trips we have arranged with families and from the photo's we get we can see we are extending children's cultural capital."

70%

of parents said that, since using the 50 Things to Do Before You're 5 app, their child has had more opportunities to socialise within their local community

Local Offer

Let's explore an example of one localised offer - Bradford



In breakout rooms...

Please discuss some of the barriers you have experienced to your work to engage parents, and try to identify solutions

Nominate someone to feed back to the group

Ways it is used it in settings

A home learning resource

Integrated activities into planning

Share local activities for families

Format for stay and play sessions

Organising trips with families



How other settings have used 50 Things...



- Launch events
- 50 Things activity sacks
- Family weekend activity
- # of the week – linked to online journals (Tapestry/Family etc)
- 50 Things family notice boards
- Printable resources (certificates and stamp cards, on your local site)



The children love telling us what they have taken part in at home and they love sharing their photos and stories about what they have got up to."



Translation tool

Remember your local web version of 50 Things to Do Before You're Five has a translation tool.

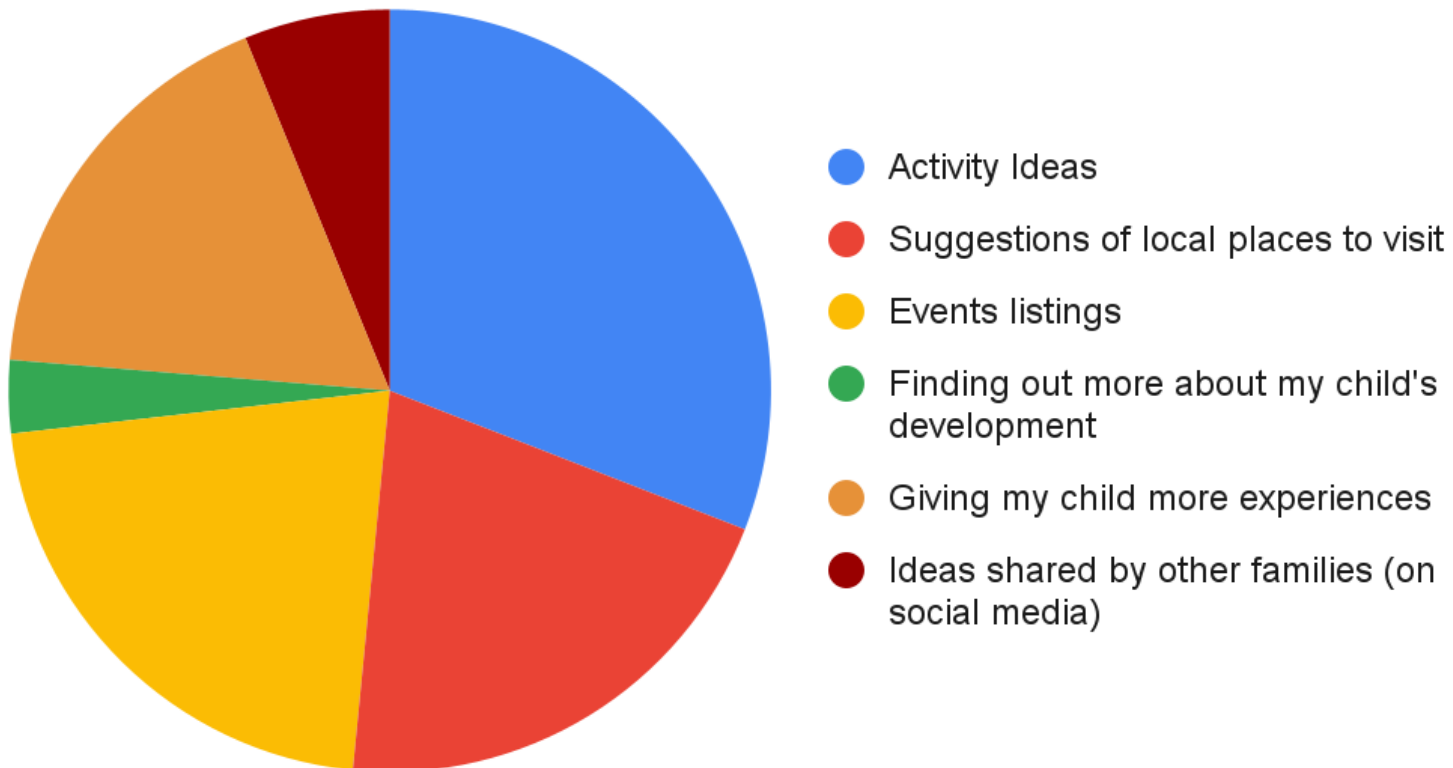
For parents who are new to English it can be daunting to look at written instructions in English.

If you mark the activity clearly with the # they can visit the website to find out more in their home language



Why families use 50 Things?

What do you use 50 Things for?



Family Wellbeing & Playfulness

82%

Of settings said that, using 50 Things to Do Before You're 5 has promoted playfulness in their children and families

76%

Of settings said that their families are enjoying using 50 Things to Do Before You're 5

In our setting we do most of the things in the app and the children get excited and enjoy doing the things we do in the setting

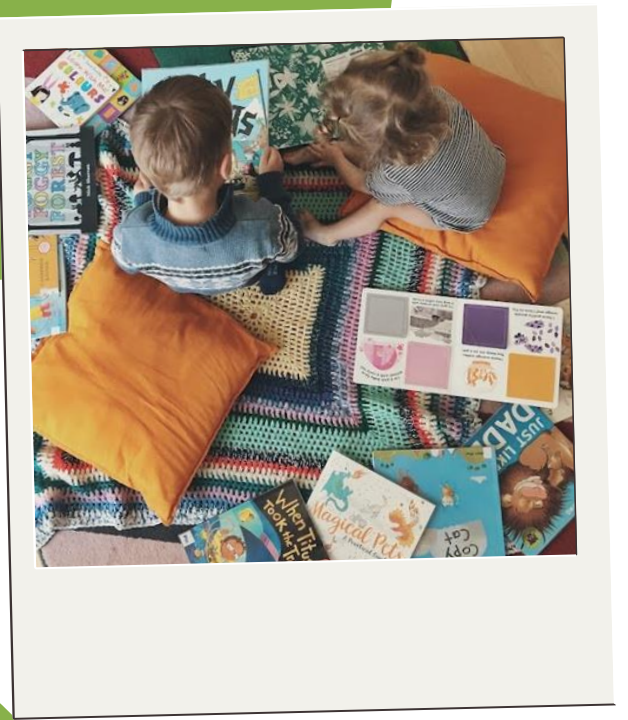
The photos they share show lovely playful activities.

More families are engaging in the activities and the children love to share their experiences

Parents are always happy in the observations whilst doing the different activities.

Children coming in very excited about their weekends or day out with mummy or daddys or grandparents, because they have something to share , their interaction with others are more fluent.

What OFSTED have said...



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Nursery School, Bradford

"The school has adapted a local '50 things' project of activities to enhance pupils' wider experiences."

Special School, Bradford

"Parents are provided with a range of information to support their children's learning and development at home. For example, staff share the '50 things to do' project with families to support children's outdoor experiences."

PVI, East Sussex

The school's work with parents is particularly strong. The involvement of parents in their children's learning is seen as a priority. For example, the workshops on 'Sharing Stories' have been extremely well attended and have had a marked impact on parents' confidence in reading with their children.

Nursery School, Bradford

School leaders promote '50 Things to do Before You're 5' curriculum in school and to parents to broaden children's learning experiences.

Nursery School, Bradford

Action planning...

- What do you want to do?
- Whose support will you need?
- Is a budget required?
- What resources will you need?
- How will you promote it?
- How will you measure success?



Thank you!

Any questions?

Upcoming Webinars: How 50TTD promotes Cultural Capital/Community engagement and why this matters