

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTOR: Play-a-long Maths

Curricular Area – Supports early & first levels of CfE Mathematics (includes aspects of literacy & numeracy)

Target Audience:



Parents & Children
Early Years & P1-3

Resources:



- Play a-long maths approved list of toys and games
- Good Quality Games
- Chat along cards to accompany chosen games –these include a list of suggested words which parents should use when playing the game with their child & reference the area of the maths curriculum that the game supports
- Bags for games
- Parent Invitation
- Guide for parents
- Parent Diary
- Family participation certificate
- Small budget for refreshments
- Staff time to prepare and run the weekly sessions
- Evaluation materials

Staff attend a short Play a-long maths training session prior to offering the programme.

Planned Outcomes:



Parents

- Feel welcomed into the school or nursery
- Learn simple ways to support their child's development in mathematics and numeracy
- Build a stronger relationship with nursery or school staff
- Increased confidence when supporting their child's learning
- Increased uptake of other parental engagement and family learning on offer in the nursery or school
- Enjoy quality time with their child and have FUN

Children

- Increase in the use of mathematical language
- Improved understanding of mathematical concepts
- Increased motivation for learning by seeing parent in nursery or school setting
- Strengthened bond with their parent through spending quality time together having FUN

Nursery / School

- Increased parental engagement
- Strengthening of relationships between staff and parents
- Children demonstrate progress in mathematics and numeracy including an increase in their maths vocabulary

Partners:



Optional support from Glasgow Life Family Learning Team.

Aims:



- To develop awareness of mathematical language & concepts & build up the child's mathematical vocabulary
- To increase parents knowledge & confidence in supporting their children with maths
- To identify activities in the home which promote the skills of sorting, grouping & comparisons
- For parents and children to have FUN while learning through play
- To establish a partnership in learning between parents, children and staff

Method:



- Buy games, bags and chat a-long cards
- Prepare publicity & invitations for families
- Produce parent information guide and daily diaries
- Consult parents about the best time to run the sessions
- Promote via nursery/school communication channels and encourage on an individual basis as required
- Session to introduce & get parents to sign up for a 6-8 week programme
- Weekly Meeting
- Child choosing own toy with parents - children taking responsibility for their own learning
- Parents & children playing for 10 – 15 minutes for 5 days in the week over 6-8 week period
- Time for reflection - Daily diary
- Celebration at the end of the programme & evaluations completed
- Optional mid-point evaluation

Covid Adaptation:

Staff could play the games with small groups of children in class on a weekly basis, then pass the game on to the parent at the school gates. Communication would be through the parent's chosen channel such as SeeSaw, WhatsApp, email or school gates, with parents sharing photographs of the children playing their game at home, and staff providing ongoing support and encouragement.

Useful Links:

<https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/how-help-kids-their-maths-homework> For supplementary family learning numeracy activities.