

## Daily tips for Playful Learning at Home – Number 21



### *Sharing our Stories*



Every family has its ups and downs, but we nearly all have some happy stories to tell. And rummaging around in our phones or old photo albums there are pictures we can show children and tell them all about the people and what was happening

Today's idea is all about feeling closer and safe together through sharing some of our stories. It can be just with a young child, or everyone in the family can pick a photo. A great way to involve family or friends you can't see right now through video calls

#### **What do I need?**

Have a look through your phone or photo albums (electronic or "real") and pick a couple of photos you think might interest your child

Photos of your childhood, and of their or others' childhood will be very interesting, but anything that is special to you will work well

#### **What will your child learn from this playing?**

About themselves and family

Things from the past

How to tell stories

Closeness and sense of identity

Asking questions

#### **What do we do?**

Pick a nice cosy place where you can have time to look together and tell your stories

Show your child the first photo you have chosen, and tell them who is in it, what they are doing, and when it was taken. Tell the story of what the picture is about

Show them things about the picture – anything at all - the weather, what people are wearing, what else can they see?

Let your child ask questions about what they see and what you have told them

When you have had enough, go on to another photo until your child is bored with the activity

As an option, let your child pick a photo and ask you all about it

#### **How can you take it further?**

Your child might like to draw their own version of the story, or tell one to you to write down

Try it out on a video call with grandparents, brothers, sisters – anyone who is at a distance. Let them know in advance they need to find a photo they can show and a story

Help your child make some pictures about their day that they can tell you all about, or tell people over video calls

***Play & talk together***  
***Be careful with too many questions***

***Pause and wait for your child to respond***  
***Copy what they say and add to it***