



Activity ideas to support Learning at Home 2-5 year olds

Early Years Service, Children's Services

Buckinghamshire Council

MAKE A MINI-ME

Make a mini-me by cutting out an old photo or drawing a picture of family members. Attach your mini me to a wooden spoon, spatula, cork, milk lid, yoghurt pot or string. If you don't have a picture, draw one on a post-it note or paper.

Now you are ready to go on a little adventure!



MINI-ME IMAGINATION

BOOK ADVENTURES WITH MINI-ME

- Look at picture books and tell stories with your mini-me
- Make up new stories as your mini-me goes through the book
- Cut out pictures from magazines and put them together in a sequence and make up a story using the pictures to help
- Tell stories in your home language



TAKE ME ON SMALL WORLD ADVENTURES

- Make a miniature world for your mini-me by using household items
- Talk about where your mini-me will go, what they will do and what they might say
- Use pictures from old magazines to make your scenes interesting and provide a variety of make believe worlds
- Take your mini-me into the garden and make a miniature den to live in



SONGS WITH MINI-ME

Try singing songs and nursery rhymes with your mini-me. Get your mini-me to act the song out. You could make props with household objects to help act them out:

'Humpty Jake sat on the wall. Humpty Jake had a great fall, all the kings horses and all the kings men couldn't put Humpty Jake together again!'

"The wheels on the bus go round and round, round and round, round and round, the wheels on the bus go round and round all day long....."

Jake on the bus goes up and down, up and down, up and down
X2 All day long!

Jake on the bus wobbles and falls, wobbles and falls, wobbles and falls.... X2 All day long!

Jake on the bus gets on, gets off, gets on, gets off, gets on, gets off
X2 All day long!"

[CBeebies Nursery Rhymes - CBeebies - BBC](#)

Information for Parents/ Carers

Tips for Small World Play

Join your child on the floor at the same level.

Model talking about pretend scenarios that your child understands.

Use silly voices when your mini-me is talking or noises to represent sounds “Wee” or “buzz”.

Listen to what your child says and respond by suggesting ideas that help to build upon their ideas so the play develops.

Introduce new words that your child might not know and model using these in a sentence, using the mini-me to help your child to understand.

Find out More

[Hungry Little Minds – Simple fun, activities for kids aged 0 – 5](#)

[Small Talk - ideas for Parents](#)

[What is Small World Play? - Twinkl Teaching Wiki](#)

[What to expect when – Developmental Guide for Parents](#)

Expressive Arts and Design

You might notice that your child can:

- Sing and change songs they know to make up their own songs.
- Notice the things you do, like cooking and cleaning and pretend to do the same.
- When something special happens, they pretend play it happening, like feeding the new baby.
- When I am playing with my toys, I make up stories like superheroes rescuing people from a building or animals eating grass.
- Use ordinary things and pretend they are something else, like a spoon is a fire hose and my bricks are fish fingers and chios.

Supporting Communication and Language

You might notice that your child can:

- Use longer sentences with words like “because” or “and” for example “I cried, I did, because I banged my foot”.
- Tell you about something that happened yesterday, such as “remember when we went to the park and had a green apple and came home”.
- Ask lots of questions and answer your questions too.
- Talk about what they are doing now, and what might happen later or tomorrow.
- Use lots of words about things that interest them, such as “diplodocus” and “brontosaurus” and enjoy learning lots of new words.
- Pretend about things when they are playing, for example putting their coat on their head “this is my magic flying cape”.