Family learning and making games with pre-school children

Some examples of language, literacy and numeracy in family learning
Theme: Raising children's achievement
Outcomes for families: be healthy, enjoy and achieve, achieve economic wellbeing

Literacy/ESOL

Speaking and Listening	Reading	Writing	ICT
• Following the gist and make appropriate contributions to discussion about the importance of play in children's development • Respecting the turn-taking rights of others during conversations • Discussing, what makes a good game for a pre-school child • Explaining likes and dislikes in various games/activities for both parents and children • Engaging in discussion about age-appropriate games, including health and safety (i.e. the size of the pieces used), literacy, language and numeracy considerations • Explaining how to play the game with a different audience, for example younger children/ older children	• Using different reading strategies (skimming and scanning) to find and obtain information on the subject of play for under fives • Researching health and safety issues to make sure the games are safe for children, age-related information, for example. choking hazards • Understanding main points and purposes of text, researching information about the importance of play for young children in learning and development • Reading for information and comprehension, for example researching history and culture of games and toys for young children	• Presenting information and ideas in a logical sequence for example writing a diary about child's play activities or preparing information to give a presentation to the group about play facilities in the area • Developing a questionnaire so games can be matched to particular children, including factors such as age, likes/dislikes, skills such as understanding, talking, counting, physical skills, favourite characters • Producing a list from group ideas about the importance of play and games for children's development • Using written words and phrases to record child's play activities and how these support the development of literacy, language and numeracy skills • Planning and drafting instructions for own game in plain understandable English for adults to follow • Sequencing instructions, proof reading and presenting final copy	• Researching online health and safety relating to children's games and age-related safety standards • Researching online the importance of play in child development • Using a digital camera to record games • Using digital voice recording to record instructions for younger children • Researching online history and culture of games, games from around the world

Numeracy

Number	Measures, shape and space	Handling data	ICT
• Reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers and identifying different ways of building in number through counting games or rhyming games suitable for pre-school children • Sequencing, counting in sequence • Following a number trail as part of a treasure hunt game for example finding the next number in a sequence, colour matching and counting, how many steps they can see on the way to the park. • Identifying low and high numbers	• Selecting, using and demonstrating awareness of appropriate units of measurement when making the game • Using different types of shape for example shapes needed to complete the game, identifying how many shapes, sides; times around the board • Sorting and using 2-D and 3-D shapes • Adding and subtracting e.g. forward and backward moves in a game • Use positional vocabulary suitable for pre-school children	• Collecting and organising data for example collecting smiley faces for individual or team scores • Sorting by colour, shape, items found on a treasure hunt, for example leaves, shapes or house numbers seen • Writing a list of what might be seen or collected on the treasure hunt, ordering a list by alphabetical order, or in time sequence • Creating tally charts to collect information, for example; types of vehicle that pass the school, number of times a dice falls on each number; numbers of dogs, pushchairs seen when on walk in the park	• Researching online health and safety relating to children's games and age-related safety standards, reading and interpreting charts, diagrams and numerical information

Check out schemes of work and resources at Skills for Families