

Class 7 Skills Through Play

Play forms a crucial part of children's learning processes so we have attached a few examples of the activities we use in school to develop and extend the early play of our pupils. These can be great ways to develop shared attention and communication skills.



Early Play with Objects

Building and dismantling a tower of bricks

Pouring things in and out of containers e.g. bricks or large beads using jugs and bowls

Large cardboard boxes - climbing in and out or being pulled along in them

Exploratory play with sensory objects such as koosh balls, sparkly toys or musical toys

Construction Activities

Large wooden bricks

Duplo

Stickle bricks

Lego

K'nex

Interstar

Interactive play

Peek-a-boo

Round and round the garden

Row, row, row the boat

Two little dicky birds

The list of songs and rhymes is endless, many of the songs we sing aim to develop social interaction skills and we often try to work on a 1-1 basis when singing

Tickling games

Swinging games

Blowing bubbles (encouraging the child to request each time)

Marble run (the adult catches the marbles for the child to request before having another turn)

Soft play activities

Pushing a ball or small truck between pairs (putting a favourite toy in the truck adds interest!)

Balloons (the child can request help to blow it up)

Pop up pirate, posting, puzzles and similar games (developing waiting and turn taking skills with an adult. It may begin the adult only adds one piece out of the whole puzzle, moving towards back and forth turn taking)

Spinning top, jack in the box and other highly motivating toys (language encouraged as the children request another go)

Early imaginative play

It is best to structure these activities at first, restricting the amount of equipment to be used, and demonstrating 2-3 actions to be performed. Over time you can build on these as the child get more confident about what is expected in this type of play.

Cars / garage and trains,

Farm and zoo sets,

Small world play

Puppets, Dressing up, Face paints

Play cooking and shopping,

Doll care and bathing.

Sensory Play (for more detail see our separate document)

Water play - floating, sinking, making bubbles, pouring, filling containers, adding food colouring

Wet sand - building shapes, raking, hiding things

Dry sand - pouring, sieving, digging

Cornflour and water - great for making finger patterns

Handling wet or dry pasta

Shaving foam

Play dough