

Wellesley Avenue, Goring by Sea, West Sussex BN12 4PN

## 6.8 The home learning environment

### Policy statement

At Kamelia Kids we know 'What parents do is more important than who parents are' and they play a key role in children's learning (Effective Pre-school, Primary and Secondary Education Project -EPPSE, 2004). Parents and carers 'are experts on their own children, and they are a child's first and enduring educators'. (National Children's Bureau -NCB, 2010).

There has been an increased focus on the important role parents and carers play in supporting learning at home. The home learning environment is a combination of the physical home and the positive relationships and talk within it, that support a child's natural curiosity, learning and development. This includes opportunities to play, interact with books and objects, and the everyday experiences to help them make sense of their world. The important thing is that parents and carers engage with their child in activities and experiences they are interested in. Research has shown that the quality of the home learning environment is important for children and this helps them to become good learners with better outcomes.

The YouTube clip shows the Duchess of Cambridge talking about the importance and the part that parents and carers have in supporting their child's development.

<https://youtu.be/RQkRyu8vilw>

### Procedures

To support parents and carers Kamelia Kids have put together a collection of learning activities, links and creative ideas. These cover most aspects of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and are intended as a guide to you and your child; not a list of compulsory activities that need completing. In addition to this we share further ideas, activities and links on our Parents Facebook group.

### General Learning

CBeebies - get creative ideas <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/makes>

Baking ideas - <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/user/126738/recipe/easy-cheesy-biscuits>  
<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/kids-baking-recipes>

Make play dough - 2 Cups Flour 1 Cup salt 1 Tablespoon Oil 1 Tablespoon Cream of Tartar 2 Cups of Water Food Colouring (But not essential) Add ingredients to large saucepan and heat on medium heat, whilst constantly stirring with a wooden spoon. Once it begins to come away at the sides, take off heat and knead.

Science experiments - simple science experiments. [www.twinkl.co.uk](http://www.twinkl.co.uk)

### Reading

Oxford owl - useful website for online reading books and fun activities to do at home

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/help-child-learn-age-3-4/>

Phonics - <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/readingschemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/>

**Name recognition** - beginning to recognise their own name, fine motor and pre-writing activities.

- Trace over your name or shapes with a highlighter.
- Practice picking up small objects with tongs or large tweezers.
- Lace beads or cheerios onto a pipe cleaner.
- Finger drawing in sand, shaving foam or gloop.

### Maths

- Numberblocks - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/help-your-child-with-maths>
- Number recognition games - getting the children to begin recognising numbers 1 - 5. For children who can do this, they can begin to recognise numbers up to 10.
- When walking about count different colour cars, point out house numbers or bus numbers.

### Active

- Joe Wicks (The Body Coach) on You Tube is popular for physical activity.
- Sticky kids - Focused on dance and movement  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4u3fUr5gb7MrMLzj6jJ2UA>
- Cosmic Kids Yoga - This is calming and relaxing but also helps to feel energised, the children enjoy this greatly and there are many sequences to choose from.
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>

### Other fun ideas

- Make a bird feeder - pipe cleaner/ string and cheerios.
- Collect items from a walk and make a nature picture/ collage.
- Freeze small toys in ice cube trays and try to help them escape.
- Build a den or a castle.
- Go on a scavenger hunt - a colour hunt, a shape hunt.
- Draw what you see from your window or when you have been out on a walk.
- Make a musical instrument out of recycled materials.
- Make a dream catcher.
- Make a sock puppet.

Please keep us updated with your learning and the fun activities you get up to, with photos and videos either share on the private parents Facebook group or email [admin@kameliakids.org.uk](mailto:admin@kameliakids.org.uk)

**Legal framework**

Help children aged 2 to 4 to learn at home during coronavirus (COVID-19)

[Help children aged 2 to 4 to learn at home during coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-aged-2-to-4-to-learn-at-home-during-coronavirus-covid-19)

**Further guidance**

Hungry Little Minds - a national campaign with ideas to support children's learning at home, or as part of everyday activities like catching the bus or doing the shopping.

[Hungry Little Minds - Simple fun, activities for kids aged 0 - 5 \(campaign.gov.uk\)](https://campaign.gov.uk)

Early years resources for learning at home

[Early years resources for learning at home - BBC Bitesize](https://www.bbc.com/education/early-years-resources-for-learning-at-home)

Starting primary school

[Starting primary school - BBC Bitesize](https://www.bbc.com/education/starting-primary-school)

40+ Activities for Preschool at Home

[40+ Activities for Preschool at Home | The Stay-at-Home-Mom Survival Guide \(thestay-at-home-momsurvivalguide.com\)](https://www.thestay-at-home-momsurvivalguide.com)