



Let's play, learn and grow together



Supporting parents and caregivers with children birth to five years with early learning and development at home

Problem solving is fun

PROBLEM SOLVING

Young children are **creative** in all aspects of their lives – it is a natural part of who they are. We see this creativity in their language development, their mathematical ideas, how they use creativity for their own well-being and how they secure their places in their families and communities (the sense of identity and belonging). They also use their inborn creativity when they 'deal' with questions and issues about the world around them. This helps with problem solving while using their inborn creativity to explore and discover, create something, think critically, investigate and ask questions through play.

Today's item of furniture is the **BED**

Let your child show you a **bed** in the house. Let your child count the number of **beds** in the house and let her tell you who sleeps in each bed. Have fun with the **beds** today!



BOOK OF THE DAY

Where is Lulu? This story is about Lulu. She hides away in a variety of different places. The question to focus on is, 'Where is Lulu and why is she hiding?' Look carefully and try to find her. Enjoy!



Download the book for free at: <https://bookdash.datafree.co/books/where-is-lulu-by-mohale-mashigo-nkosingiphile-mazibuko-and-clyde-beech/>

SOURCE: Bookdash

Learning together is FUN

Here are some playful activities to do with your young child today (and other days too)

Getting active in the morning

Doggy, Doggy, Where's Your Bone?! Tell your child that he is *Doggy*. Let him choose his bone (The 'bone' can be any object such as a small ball, a small stick or a bottle cap). He needs to sit with his back to you with his 'bone' behind him. You then need to 'steal' and hide his bone (and he may not look to see where you hide the bone). When you have hidden the bone, say "Doggy, Doggy, where's your bone?" He can now turn around and try to guess where the bone is. He must look around the area that you are playing in and may only guess three times where the bone is hidden. Have fun finding the bone!

For PARENTS

KEEP YOUR HANDS CLEAN

We touch many surfaces and objects every day. Wipe down these surfaces with soap and water often throughout the day to stop spreading germs and viruses. Sometimes when our hands are not clean and we touch our eyes (or other people's), noses or mouths (the **T-zone**) - we also spread germs and viruses. Try to avoid touching your or your child's eyes, nose or mouth unnecessarily. If you must touch these areas, wash your hands before doing so. Teach your child this from a young age.



Younger than 18 months

I will get you!: Put your baby's favourite toy a *little out of reach*. She will try to work out how to get to her toy. She might roll over and stretch to reach the toy. If she cannot reach it after a few tries, move it closer before she gets upset. Encourage and praise her while she is trying. She is developing her large and small muscles when rolling and reaching for the toy. The most important skill that she is developing is *solving the problem of reaching her toy*. Babies solve problems!



18 months to 36 months

Find my lid: Collect a *number of items with tops*, like plastic bowls, plastic milk bottles, toothpaste tubes and plastic cool drink bottles. Take the tops off and mix them up. Let your child find and match the right top for each item by trying to twist a top onto an item. This activity helps him develop the small muscles in his fingers. He is also learning that you must *try over and over again in order to solve problems*. Take away the items that he has real difficulty with and bring them back later. Praise him when he manages to get it right.

3 to 5 years

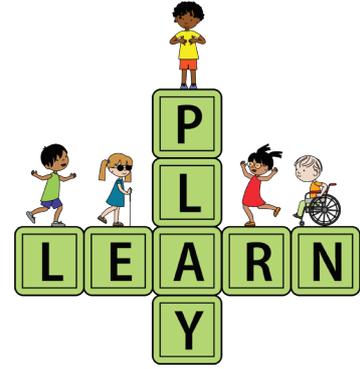
We belong together: Collect *items that are normally found together*, like a lock and its key, paint and a paint brush, a cup and a saucer, a pot and a lid. Jumble them up and ask her to match the items.



She must try to match these items by putting them together. Help her along if she is struggling. She will be learning how to solve a problem. Her knowledge of the world will also grow as she develops the ability to see what belongs together.



ECDmobi is a **FREE** application (App) that provides parents with ideas to support their children's learning through play according to their age. You can find it in the **Google Play** (search for ECDmobi) or the **DBE's Cloud** at: <https://dbeccloud.org.za>
Registering on **ECDmobi** is **FREE**.



HEALTHY HABITS

Allow your child to solve problems

Remember to keep it **PLAYFUL** and **FUN**. That is how young children learn.

