



TALK

READ

CREATE

PLAY

EVERY DAY!

WTK Learning Through Play Series
September 2022 Vol 2, Issue 3

DEAR KINDERGARTEN FAMILY,

Our WTK Learning Through Play series provides you with ideas on how to use the Welcome to Kindergarten™ resources as you talk, read, create and play with your child every day!



TALK

TALKING AND SINGING BUILD:

- relationships
- memory
- rhythm & rhyme
- belonging
- enjoyment of music
- listening & speaking skills
- an appreciation for cultural stories & oral traditions

READ

READING BUILDS:

- vocabulary
- a sense of story
- knowledge
- print, letter & number awareness

CREATE

CREATING BUILDS:

- problem-solving skills
- imagination & personal expression
- small & large muscle control and coordination
- measurement, geometry & spatial sense

PLAY

PLAYING BUILDS:

- self-awareness & regulation
- math concepts & vocabulary
- confidence & well-being
- empathy & understanding
- decision-making skills
- cooperation
- physical skills
- curiosity

**YOU ARE YOUR
CHILD'S FIRST AND
BEST TEACHER!**

- Follow your child's lead as you play and discover together
- Talk and read with your child in your first language
- Help your child to share and take turns
- Encourage your child to make choices and decisions
- Celebrate your child's learning

2	TALKING & READING TOGETHER – Read Alouds
3	EXPLORING MATH TOGETHER – Fingers, Fingers! Counting On
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TALKING AND READING TOGETHER



WHY IT MATTERS

Reading provides children with a wide range of ideas, views and experiences.

READ ALOUDS

- Talk and read with your child in your first language.
- Explore books that interest your child.
- While reading, ask open-ended questions, for example: "What do you think...", "What would happen if...", "I wonder..."

Hearing a story read aloud helps children learn to focus and appreciate the sound of language.



There is no app to replace your lap – spend time reading with your child.



YouTube is a great source for free Read Aloud videos. Check out [this link](#) about reading to children.



Children build science and math skills when they sort, compare, measure, describe and predict.



- When going up or down stairs, count the first four steps, stop, and then count on with five, six, etc., rather than starting back at one.
- Encourage your child to predict how many steps it is from their bedroom to the kitchen, or how many scoops of cereal it will take to fill their bowl. Then compare the actual number of steps or scoops.
- Place the magnetic numbers in a container. Take turns pulling a number out of the container. Name the number and then count on to 10 after identifying the number you have pulled!

CREATIVE EXPLORATION TOGETHER



WHY IT MATTERS

Children develop independence, problem-solving and thinking skills through creative exploration.



PLAYING WITH PLAYDOUGH

Encourage your child to explore using [playdough](#) and a variety of materials, for example: cookie cutters, stones, potato masher, etc.

- Model creating a scene for a story with the playdough using materials such as pinecones, animals, action figures, etc. and telling a story to go with them.
- Invite your child to create their own story and share it with you or their friends.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Everyday recycled objects are great for encouraging your child's creative development.

- Use empty cardboard boxes to make a house, a robot, a truck, an animal – whatever your child is interested in. Your child could paint the box or decorate it with craft materials.
- Use empty kitchen or toilet rolls or small plastic juice bottles to make people. Draw on faces, stick on paper clothes, and use cotton wool for hair. Your child could use these new toys to make up stories.
- Go on a nature walk to look for natural materials to make art. For example, in autumn collect fallen leaves for drawing, pasting onto paper or dipping into paint.
- Keep a 'busy box' with things like string, wrapping paper scraps, ice-cream sticks, stickers and straws that your child can use to make whatever they want.
- Find apps or games that your child can use to make digital art. For example, there are apps for free drawing or arranging photos into collages.



EXPLORING FEELINGS TOGETHER



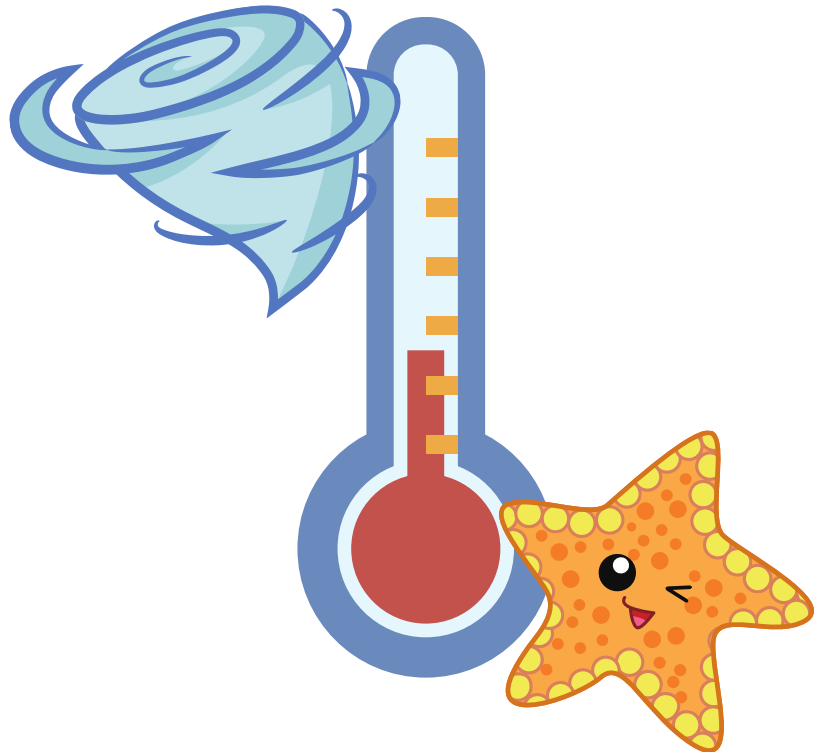
WHY IT MATTERS

Children learn to understand and manage their feelings, which helps them feel and show empathy for others and resolve conflict.

STARFISH & TORNADOES

To help children notice how much energy they're feeling inside, Starfish & Tornadoes is a useful tool.

- Draw a picture of a thermometer with a starfish at the bottom and a tornado at the top.
- Ask if your child feels calm and peaceful like a starfish or revved up like a tornado.
- Brainstorm ways to feel calm like a starfish, for example, physical activity to release energy, listening to [calming music](#), and so on.



CHICKEN, COCONUT AND TOMATO CURRY

This easy-to-make recipe is prepared and cooked in one pan for about 30 minutes.

Although this recipe calls for raw chicken, if you wish to cut down the cooking time you can also use cooked left-over chicken and adjust the cooking time to about four to five minutes to warm thoroughly before adding the fresh tomatoes.

Engage your child by having them open the cans and measure the spices. Chat to them about the Indian spice garam masala, a blend of spices that translates as “hot spices” – not as spicy hot but hot as in having a warming effect on your body.

During dinner, as everyone eats this curry, it will be fun to chat more about the warming effect – especially if it is a cold wintry evening.



Yield: 4 servings

Preparation Time: 5 minutes

Cooking Time: 20 minutes

Ingredients:

- 1.5 tbsp coconut oil
- 1 white onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1/2 tsp grated fresh ginger
- 2 tsp garam masala
- 1 tsp curry powder
- 1½ cups coconut milk
- 150ml / 5 oz tomato puree (or tomato paste)
- 500g / 1 lb chicken breast, diced
- 2 tomatoes, chopped

Instructions:

1. Melt the coconut oil in a large saucepan over medium heat.
2. When melted, add the onion and sauté for two minutes until softened.
3. Add the garlic, ginger, garam masala and curry powder and sauté for another two minutes, stirring continuously.
4. Add the coconut milk and tomato paste and whisk until everything has combined.
5. Add the diced chicken pieces and simmer for 15 minutes.
6. Finally, add the tomatoes and continue to simmer for another two to three minutes.
7. Serve immediately with rice and poppadoms or naan bread

ABOUT THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

The Learning Partnership is a registered Canadian charity that brings together business, educators and partners to design and deliver inclusive innovation education programs focused on K-8 students in publicly-funded schools across Canada. Our programs build the essential skills and competencies needed in tomorrow's leaders, innovators and problem solvers. They enhance provincial curricula, are aligned with Canada's innovation agenda, and are made available to students, parents and educators through the generous support of our education sector partners and funding from corporate, government, foundation and private donors.

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