

Dear Preschool Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all ok..!

I wanted to just drop you a quick message to say I have been having lots of thoughts to share ideas with you of things you could do with your pre-schoolers, however I have decided not to, as there is so much out there on, the internet, that it can be overwhelming.

I would just say that from my years Childminding with children of all ages at home, it is important to try to maintain routine. Even now in my household, with teenagers, we are getting up, as usual, obviously they are doing school work, which I am just checking they are doing, having snacks at break time, lunch at lunch time, having some exercise, with them, (we are doing Joe Wickes at 9.00am) and then after school hours normal tea time etc.

Don't forget you are, and always will be, your children's "First Educator".

Everything you do with your children, every time you talk to them, share things with them, they are learning from you. In Early Years the most important thing is to communicate with children, particularly through Sustained, shared thinking. This is where you may "wonder" together about things such as "I wonder if worms lay eggs?" and then, go with the things the children are interested in, take time to research things with them and extend their knowledge. This can be lots of fun as the wonder of small children is spectacular and a real joy! All the normal things you do everyday are a learning opportunity, get them involved, cooking; cleaning; laundry. This will help you slow down, something we all will be needing to do. As my 84 year old parents keep telling me, "Just take your time, slow down and remain calm" and I think this is especially important around children as they will pick up on your emotions.

So all that I would like to end saying, if you are wanting to either e mail me or speak to me, drop me a line, even if its just to say hi! I will be checking email everyday so will get back to you. If you do want ideas let me know also. I hope in a way, you will be able to enjoy this precious time with your children, keep safe, and take care. If anyone feels like sending us pictures of what you're up to or just of you, please do so, and I will send back a reply for your children!

Love

Ruth

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