

WE'VE GOT MAIL!

Parents share how they make use of opportunities at home and in the community to support their children's learning and development.



Learning through experience allows children to deepen their understanding

✉ My daughters are very expressive and active. They love to experience new things firsthand rather than reading about them. We encourage a lot of outdoor experiences to teach them about the importance of caring for others, animals and the environment. Recently, we took them to the goat farm, where they saw goats being milked and learnt how they are reared. They also got to feed the goats and had a great time!

JAYANTHI RAJARETHINAM, mother of two, aged 7 and 3

✉ Our firstborn, Caden, whined frequently when his little sister arrived because he was upset about having to share the attention. To help him adjust, we involved him in caring for the baby while showering him with praise. When he helped us grab a fresh diaper, we would say, "You are such a thoughtful brother!". We encouraged him to read books and share toys with his sister. We would also say that his sister was learning from him. This made Caden feel more secure and take pride in being a big brother.

JOSHUA TAN, father of two, aged 3½ and 7 months



Getting Caden to embrace his role as a big brother helped him grow socially and emotionally



Learning happens naturally when children take an interest in their surroundings

✉ Changes around us provide interesting topics for children. During our daily walks to preschool, I encourage my daughter to observe her surroundings. It could be the plants in a community garden, the residents' pets, or the construction of a mall. Passing by the same things daily allows us to enrich our discussions. When my daughter noticed a lot of flags along the road in August, I took the chance to talk about National Day. Such moments can improve children's communication skills, vocabulary and understanding.

POH CHAI YEIN, mother of a girl, aged 6

THREE IN A ROW

We showed you how to make a Tic-Tac-Toe game set in the Jul-Sep 2023 issue. Here are some of you with your DIY kits!



JOSEPH SADIKIN, 5



LAILA KARNO, 5



MOHD ZAYN ARFA BIN MOHD SHARIPUDIN, 4

SUPPORTING HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT FROM BIRTH TO THREE

Parents, share specific examples of how you support your baby's or toddler's physical, social-emotional, language and cognitive development. Attach a photo with your anecdote and your submission may appear in the next issue of *Beanstalk!*

Submit your story by **22 December 2023** at go.gov.sg/beanstalk-mailbag or scan this QR code.



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