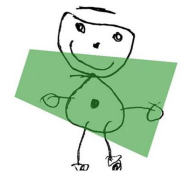




# A parent/carer's guide to..... 'Understanding the World'



Caverstede | Early Years Centre

Ways to help your child ...

**Make sense of the world,  
Learn about people and places,**

**Look at things around them,  
Use technology**

**Understanding the world...** is made up of the following aspects:

- **People and Communities**
- **The World**
- **Technology**



**This area of Learning and Development** involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

**You can help your child by asking open ended questions, for example:**

How do you think that works?

Why do you think that happens?

What would happen if we...?

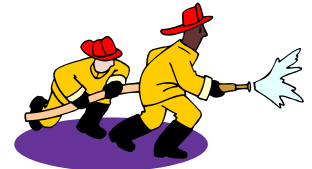
How can we...?

Try to use correct terms / names for things for example names of birds, trees, dinosaurs etc. if you know them!

## People and Communities

Children talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They know that other children don't always enjoy the same things and are sensitive to this. They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others plus among families, communities and traditions.

- Take an interest in the way other people live and eat around you e.g. if you go to the Chinese or Indian restaurant/takeaway talk about the food and why you like eating it. Look at the pictures and writing in the restaurant.
- Try out different foods and tastes with your child. What does it taste like? Salty? Sweet/sour? This is really good to try with fruits. Ask your child if they liked the taste.
- Talk about the different occupations people have



## The World

Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur and talk about changes.

- Visit places together e.g. Itter Park to feed the ducks, the Cathedral to see a huge building.
- Talk with your child about how you got there and what you passed on the way. Afterwards talk about what you did while you were there and what else you could have done.

## Technology

Children recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They select and use technology for particular purposes.

This aspect includes using computers, remote control toys and everyday technology, for example, pressing the button on the pedestrian crossing, using the remote control to change channels on the television.

- Encourage them to use technology, for example, a digital camera.
- Try taking a technology walk, identifying, for example, a cash point, traffic lights, automatic doors, ticket machines.
- Encourage your child to speculate on the reasons why things happen or how things work.
- Introduce vocabulary to enable your child to talk about their observations and to ask questions.

