

# Working Together to Extend your Child's Learning at Home

As we work in partnership with parents/carers we ask that you continue to enhance your child's learning and development at home over the coming weeks through sharing and exploring with some or all of the following activities which you can enjoy together:

Items added to YouTube -

[Auntie Jill reads The Christmas Story](#)

[Auntie Jen reads Dear Santa](#)

[Postman Pat Christmas Special](#)

## Activities to do:

- ☀️ Read your child the story 'Dear Santa' or follow the above link to watch Auntie Jen read it. Talk to them about how hard Santa works at this time of year, making toys, wrapping presents and making sure that everything is ready for Christmas Eve. I'm sure they have decided already, but if not chat to your child about what present they would like to receive at Christmas. Would they like to make a gift to give to someone special too?
- ☀️ To round up our theme about People Who Help Us, watch the above Postman Pat Christmas Special and chat to your child about how busy the postman is at this time of year, delivering Christmas cards and parcels.



- ☀️ Follow the below link to make some play dough with your child. You could even add green food colouring and glitter to make it Christmassy! Help your child to pat, squash, squeeze or roll the dough to create Christmas objects - maybe a tree, or a bell, or Santa. If you have some Christmas cutters, they could use them to cut out some shapes and decorate them with buttons or sequins.

[How to make play dough link](#)



- ☀️ Give your child some empty boxes, wrapping paper and Sellotape. Help them to 'wrap' the presents up, just like the elves in Santa's workshop!



- ☀️ Offer your child a variety of left-over Christmas decorations. (make sure they are safe for them first!) Encourage them to create a pattern with them, or you could give them a flat shape

of a Christmas tree cut from card and see if they can decorate it. You could even take a photograph of their finished masterpiece to share on their Tapestry account!



- ☀ Follow the below link to play a Christmas physical game with your child. Download the cards and then show your child the moves to make when they see each card, eg march like a nutcracker soldier, take tiny elf steps. When they are used to linking the moves to the pictures you could flash the cards and see if your child knows what to do without telling them!

[Christmas Physical Game cards link](#)

- ☀ Play alongside your child at an activity of their own choosing. As they play use the commenting approach (see below link) to give a running commentary of what they are doing. Continue to try to carry out the commenting approach with your child for approximately 10 minutes daily.

[An introduction to using the commenting approach with your child](#)

Below are some useful links that you may wish to browse to find other ideas for activities!

- ❖ [Better Health Start for Life - tips on helping your child to talk](#)
  - ❖ [Activities for babies, toddlers and children - BBC Tiny Happy People](#)
  - ❖ [Family Zone | National Literacy Trust](#)
  - ❖ [Black Country Early Outcomes | Activities for under 5s](#)
- [Activities for kids: Fun development and bonding ideas for babies, toddlers and pre-school children](#)