

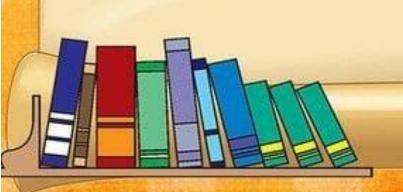
## Dear Parents,

Summer Vacation is a welcome break, a freedom from fixed schedules and rules. But freedom brings more responsibility. It is time to get our children engaged and let them explore the areas of proximal development.

Early childhood offers a vast window of opportunity to shape the trajectory of a child's holistic development and build a foundation for their future. For children to achieve their full potential, as their right to life, they need health care and nutrition, protection from harm and a sense of security, opportunities for early learning, and responsive caregiving — like talking, singing, and playing — with parents and caregivers who love them. All of this is needed to nourish developing brains and fuel growing bodies.

Children learn best through fun and engaging activities which transform playtime into numerous opportunities to instil physical, sensory-motor, cognitive, language, socioemotional and aesthetic skills.

Keeping this in mind, we have planned some constructive activities shared below, which will keep our children engaged and enable them channelize their energies to be more creative.







4. Seeds of change. Children are social creatures and they all have a unique personality that blooms and blossoms with time. It takes time for new behaviours to grow. Get a seed of any kind and plant it in a pot. The seed represents a desired change. Explain to the child how the new behaviour must take root, just like the seed. Encourage children to water the seed every day and work towards changing their own behaviour. The plant is also symbolic to the caregivers. Just as the seed grows slowly, so does the child. 5. A child's brain develops rapidly during the first six years of her life. She learns decision making, classification of common relations, language abilities, pairing, and problem-solving skills etc. Cognition is a process of acquiring knowledge through experiences. Engage children in a shape hunt activity where they will search objects in and around the house and pair them with the basic shapes to sharpen their cognitive skills. You can create a daily routine where children can indulge in activities like rhymes, stories, colour sorting, stacking wooden blocks, games of matching, pretend play etc. that can improve creativity. 6. Young children are brimming with energy which is a vital thing for physical growth and development. Make an obstacle course in your living room or balcony, consisting of old cushions, cardboard boxes, toys, or other objects that your child can run around or climb over. The repeated movement of large and small muscle groups will build and refine how well these parts of the body work.

7. The secret of success is found in your daily routine. Following good habits helps you stay happy, energized, healthy and safe. Hence it is very important to practice them in our daily routine. Maintain a Checklist or a Chart to keep a tab on your healthy habits. E.g., Wake up early, brush your teeth twice a day, take bath regularly to keep the germs away, have healthy breakfast, follow table etiquettes, eat fresh fruits and vegetables, drink plenty of water to beat the summer heat, wash your hands regularly before and after meal time or play time, trim your nails and hair often, cover your mouth while coughing and sneezing, exercise regularly to stay fit and healthy and be kind to everyone. 8. The family that prays together stays together, and if they stay together, they will love one another as God has loved each one of them. And works of love are always works of peace. When our children learn the importance of prayer and begin doing it regularly, it expands their relationship with God. When they pray, they connect to him and understand that God loves them, blesses them, their family and those they pray for. Inculcating Prayer in their routine at home just as they do in school will draw them near to God and feel his comfort. 9. Recycle it all, no matter how small. Let us encourage our children to save environment by understanding the importance of 5R's - (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot) and creating something best out of waste with the material available at home. E.g.: Pencil Holder, Photo Frame, Aquarium, Bird House, Flower Vase etc.



Make your child more independent by encouraging them to practice some interesting Life Skills like:

- 1. Buttoning and unbuttoning the shirt.
- 2. Tying the shoe laces.
- 3. Folding the mat and clothes.
- 4. Laying the table.
- 5. Arranging the book and toy shelves.
- 6. Zipping the school bag.
- 7. Sorting and pairing the household items.
- 8. Learning some traffic rules.
- 9. Revising numbers (counting fans, lights, family members, on the staircase)
- 10. Revising phonic sounds.
- 11. Practicing handwriting skills.
- 12. Helping everyone in the family.
- 13. Greeting family members and relatives.
- 14. Using Magic Words in daily routine: THANK YOU, WELCOME, SORRY, PLEASE.
- 15. Conversing in English using small phrases and sentences.

## "Joy is the simplest form of gratitude."

Encourage children to be grateful for all that they have and appreciate them for all that they do.

Share something positive and appreciate them during their day as a word of appreciation is enough to spread smiles and brighten their day.

