

“Playing” to learn!



Play is how children make sense of the world and is an effective method of learning for young children. Through play, children use their natural curiosity to explore ideas, practice skills and learn new concepts. **Play = learning!**

Make play part of your day by:

- Being a **play partner** with your child. Be playful and let your child take the lead.
- Adding **play to your daily routines** – sing silly songs about tooth brushing, use soap crayons in the bathtub, take giant steps out to the car, put on a CD and dance at the dinner table, listen to a story on tape as you eat, then draw a picture...
- Encourage **pretend play**. Children can practice choosing, generating possibilities, taking risks and using language and thinking skills. Play on!

Provided by: *Ontario Early Years Literacy Specialists*