



Play



Play is often referred to as the occupation of childhood.

Play offers your child the opportunity to develop:

- Gross motor skills
- Fine motor skills
- Visual motor skills
- Cognitive abilities
- Language skills
- Imagination
- Attention and social skills

Play activities are the first social experiences for a child.

Play begins as a solitary activity and then becomes parallel (the children are in the same room but do not play together).

Finally, play progresses to cooperative play, where children play together – sharing fun, imagination and skills.

Make play motivating and fun.

Teach play skills.

Encourage willingness to share and communication of affection and appreciation for the efforts of others.

Modify toys for fine motor difficulty.

The advice above is from the following sources:

Jane Horwood: Sensory Circuits: A sensory motor skills programme for children

Paula Aquilla & Ellen Yack: Building Bridges through sensory integration therapy for children with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders

Phoebe Caldwell & Jane Horwood: Using intensive interaction and sensory integration: A handbook for those who support people with severe autism