

Real-life experiences 1

Learning and development area - Communicating

As children participate in everyday experiences with their family, they are provided with meaningful learning opportunities to explore and engage with numeracy, literacy and language.

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(Refer to 'Communicating', p. 59, in the Queensland kindergarten learning guideline, Queensland Studies Authority 2010.)

Mathematical thinking, concepts and language can be promoted as parents talk with their child and draw attention to the mathematics in real life.

Support learning during everyday experiences

Ideas for cooking and baking

- Count out with your child how many eggs are needed.
- Measure how much flour or milk is needed.
- Talk about full, empty, nearly full, nearly empty, level, light, heavy and heavier.
- Talk about big, little, long, short, thick and thin shapes.

Ideas for preparing a snack or meal

- Talk about which foods are healthy and where different foods come from.
- Encourage healthy hygiene habits, such as washing hands before handling food.
- Sort food – fruit, vegetables, meat, dairy and talk about where they belong in the kitchen, such as the fridge and pantry.
- Talk about how many people are eating the meal and how many sandwiches to make.

Ideas for putting away the dishes

- Sort the dishes into groups that are the same, such as plates, cups and bowls. You could also sort items by shape (e.g. round things, square things) or size (e.g. big, middle-sized, small).
- Encourage your child to sort the cutlery into groups with similar attributes, such as small teaspoons, butter knives and forks.

Talk with your child about the things that you are doing. Encourage them to ask and answer questions to find out more.