

Introduction to ORIM

Opportunities Recognition Interaction Modelling

ORIM stands for **Opportunities, Recognition, Interaction** and **Modelling**. These are four ways you can support your child's early learning and development in everyday life - ORIM is about making the most of what you are already doing!

Opportunities

We can help children to do and learn things during day-to-day experiences, routines and activities, by giving them *opportunities* such as:

- watching your face and hearing your voice as you sing or chat while changing their nappy
- exploring and playing with household objects
- looking at and talking about things that you see or hear when out and about - colours, sounds, birds, street signs, buses etc.



Every opportunity is a learning opportunity

Recognition

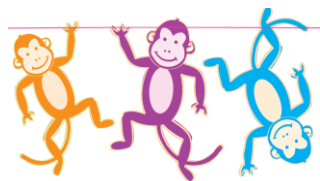
Recognition is about noticing the things that your child does - and showing them that you value their efforts and achievements.



Recognition can be through encouraging words - or a smile, hug or high five - or an action such as putting their painting on the fridge or making up a story with your child as the main character.

You'll also *recognise* what counts as progress for *your* child, as they take lots of little learning steps on the way to 'big' things like being able to walk or talk.

Recognising and valuing children's day-to-day learning and development helps them to feel good about themselves, and encourages them to carry on exploring and learning new things.



Interaction

Interaction is about doing things together with your child, and talking with them about what they are doing or how they are feeling.

Your child's learning and development are supported by the many ways that you *interact* with them, such as:

- talking, playing and having fun
- making or doing things together
- helping them to do something they can nearly do - and letting them have a go on their own when they are ready
- helping them manage their frustration when they find things difficult
- letting them know they are loved, through hugs and cuddles
- sharing books, stories, songs and rhymes.



Modelling

Babies and young children learn from watching and copying those around them. You are the most important model for your child!



Babies and young children will pick up lots of things from those closest to them, including:

- how to interact with others - words and phrases, and how we use them
- our attitude and behaviour towards other people and things - our sense of humour, friendliness, willingness to have a go, etc.
- day-to-day activities: writing a shopping list, reading a text message or magazine, counting out money, sorting clothes, etc.

We act as models even when we're not aware of doing so.

ORIM is a useful reminder about how we can support children's learning in everyday life.

