

Thank you for providing some of your time to our classroom. Your child will enjoy sharing some of their learning with you.

One of the main ways in which the children are learning is through opportunities for them to engage in investigations of interest to them. The teacher will have planned or directed aspects of these investigations with the children and while it may look like they are doing anything they choose, their work is purposeful and linked to literacy and numeracy.

In your time with us there are some key things that you can do to help the children in their learning:

- Read the developmental and learning intentions we have set for all children this fortnight. This will help you to know what types of learning we are concentrating on and you might see opportunities to talk about these things with the children in their investigations.
- Rather than just moving around the room, try to spend time with the same group of children or child for at least 15 minutes.
- The teacher may ask you to help support children in their particular investigations or in the outdoor learning areas.
- Attempt to make links for children with their learning. Instead of asking them, 'What are you making or doing?', try describing some of the things you observe. For example: 'I can see you have placed the round paper on top of the tower', or, 'Would you like to write a list of the things you have used?' This focuses on the learning and concepts of literacy and numeracy rather than just the activity.
- You can make suggestions at times for children who are not sure what to do next, or simply watch and listen to the language of the children.
- The teacher may ask you to talk with a small group about some of their investigations. This is like a small show-and-tell session where the children can model language to each other and share their learning and investigations.

You will notice that the teacher will bring the children back to a reflection time together at some stage during the day in order to help model some learning. Formal instruction time for helping children with spelling, writing or reading also occurs during the day and you may or may not be present for that. The teacher will help you to know what to do at those times. It may be listening to a child read or helping them with their work.

We hope you enjoy your time observing and participating in our classroom and we thank you for your help.

Sample reflection sheet

- Tell us about your investigations today?
- Did you make a plan or do a design brief before you started?
- What were you attempting to do?
- Why are you interested in this?
- Who was working with you?
- What do you plan to work on or do next with this?
- What have you discovered?
- What type of learning did you experience? It seems like you did measuring, writing (whatever was apparent).