



Circles of learning

Education Health Environment Community Creativity

The Importance of Community for your Children

Being involved in a community of family, friends, relations and neighbours is important in the growth and development of your child.

Community gives a child support, a sense of belonging, a strong sense of self and a sense of connection. They feel emotionally and physically safe and valued; they develop social abilities and have a sense of sharing and caring for each other.

Without being part of a community, a child soon feels isolated and alone, has a feeling of unworthiness, feels like a failure and starved of love.

Ways to develop a Community

- Invite your near neighbours to come to a party and get to know each other.
- Offer to do some community service and check with your council and / or local school as to what is available.
- Create family functions on a regular basis.
- Create a street party and help everyone get together a stall or other activities.
- Become involved with school or local sports groups for children.
- Visit an aged person's home – offer to do shopping for them or take them for a walk each week. Young children will love to be part of helping and older children can take on the responsibility for themselves.
- Get to know the older people in your neighbourhood and offer to help them in their garden or home.
- Give the children meaningful roles in your community that challenge them to grow.
- Create opportunities to develop leadership skills in your children, such as organising games for a younger child's party.

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