



## Daily tips for Playful Learning at Home



### Foam Fun

Messy play is great for all kinds of learning, ranging from fine motor skills to how to clear up afterwards. Foam is easy and cheap to make and can occupy children for hours – great to do either indoors or out

#### What do I need?

- Ingredients to make the foam
  - 1 tablespoon of washing up liquid or some bubble bath or low allergy soap (make sure it is suitable for your child's skin)
  - 1 cup warm water
  - A whisk and a bowl
- A tray to play with the foam in
- Some cups or bowls
- Toys that can safely play in the foam

#### What will your child learn from this play?

- Different textures and how they feel
- Making shapes and marks
- How fluids flow
- Washing and cleaning
- Vocabulary for different textures and actions
- curiosity

#### What do we do?

Whisk together the washing up liquid and warm water – your child may enjoy watching this, and you can chat about how the liquids go all foamy!

You want a consistency that can form soft peaks if possible

Help your child pour out the foam onto the tray and then let them explore it

Model making shapes and marks, or gathering the foam into lumps and smoothing it again

Chat about what your child is doing – say what you see “Look, it is going all squishy!” and pause for a response

It may be that some toy animals or similar need a wash in the foam

Or they could have adventures and make a story together

If you have a tray big enough, let your child get in for a full experience!

#### How can you take it further?

Try some food colouring in the foam to experiment with colours – chat about the colours and how they blend

Use some bowls and cups to experiment with pouring

Push the boat out and fill the bath with coloured foams to play with (or a large tub outside, or a paddling pool)