



Picture News

In the Early Years

Speaking and Listening

Development Matters: Comment on images of familiar situations in the past. Describe events in some detail.

Look at the Picture News poster: What can you see? What can you see some of the people doing in the picture? What do you like about this picture?

Tell the children this is a picture of a new playground in Germany that has been specially designed to be more difficult than a normal one. You could locate Germany and where you live on a world map. The playground has a tall tower that you can climb up and lots of tricky bits that children might not be able to do straight away and need to practise and practise before they can do it.

Think about: What do you think of the playground? Does it look like one you would like to visit? What do you think you would enjoy doing? Do you think we need to make the equipment in our playgrounds more difficult? Why/why not?

Question: What playground equipment do you find the most difficult?

When we visit a playground, we sometimes find using some of the equipment harder than others. Look at some pictures of playground equipment on the **EY Resource**.

Think about: Which equipment do you find easy? Which do you find more difficult? Can you think of some equipment that you used to find hard but now that you've practised, you can do it? What was it? What did you find hard?

Useful Story

'It's my turn' by David Bedford and Elaine Field

The Story Time Family

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJBk9mJwkel&t=52s>

Role-play: Can you take on roles of people playing in the playground?

Development Matters: Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment.

Think about: What play equipment do your characters want to try out? Can they do it or do they think it's a bit too hard? I hope nothing goes wrong! What's happened? What are they going to try out next? I hope everyone is sharing all the equipment!

Resources: Tuff tray, fake grass or materials, small world playground equipment or wooden blocks/pipe cleaners to make some swings and seesaws, small world characters, key vocabulary cards (see EY Additional Resource 1)

Drawing and Writing: Can you design a brand-new playground for your school?

Development Matters: Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s.

Imagine we are looking to build a brand-new playground at our school/nursery and you have the job of designing it! Can you draw and label what you would like us to have?

Think about: What do you enjoy going on the most at playgrounds? How tall/big will it be? What colours do you think it should be? What else would you want there to be?

Resources: Drawing and writing proforma (see EY Additional Resource 1), pencils, sound mats

Maths/Outdoors: Can you make your own giant snakes and ladders in your playground?

Development Matters: Link the number symbol (numeral) with its cardinal number value.

Discuss that as well as equipment to climb and play on, we can also have other games in our playground.

Draw out a snakes and ladders board with numbers up to 20 or 30 using chalk on the ground.

Think about: Where do we start? How do we play the game of snakes and ladders? Who will go first? What number does the dice say? Can you jump the same amount of spaces as it says on the dice? Can you check your counting? You've landed on a ladder, what happens now? Oh no, you've landed on a snake, what happens now? How many spaces do you need to jump to get to the end?

Resources: Outdoor area, chalk, large dice, something to use as counters

Outdoor: Can you make your own playground obstacle course?

Development Matters: Use talk to organise themselves and their play. Confidently and safely use a range of large and small apparatus. Develop overall body-strength, balance, co-ordination and agility.

Some playgrounds have obstacle courses that you need to travel all the way across until you get to the end.

Think about: Can you make up an obstacle course for your friends? Where will it start? What will your friends need to do first? What will you use for your first obstacle? What will the second obstacle be? I wonder if your friends will need to do some climbing, balancing, hopping and crawling! Can you try out your course? Do you think anything needs changing or do you think any of it could be even better?

Resources: Wooden planks, tyres, hoops, crates, cones