

WE LEARN TOGETHER

The collaboration with you as a parent



AARHUS
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| **TrygFonden**



Your child's day care works with an educational framework called *We Learn Together*. This leaflet gives you knowledge about *We Learn Together* and your role as a parent. As a parent, you play the crucial role in your child's development, and therefore it is important that you become involved in the educational work in your child's day care. In this way, you can strengthen your child's development at home to an even greater extent.

In short, *We Learn Together* gives the pedagogical staff knowledge and tools to strengthen children's learning and well-being in various activities, games and conversations throughout the day.



***We Learn Together* strengthens children's:**



Language e.g., attention to sound and writing (kindergarten only) and vocabulary



Early **mathematical skills** e.g., mathematics vocabulary and numeracy



General **cognitive competencies** e.g., retain attention (attention retention) and delayed gratification



Social skills e.g., emotional knowledge and social relationships

Research has shown that *We Learn Together* strengthens these skills, which are of great importance for your child's well-being and learning – both now and here and in the long term when your child goes to school.

Everyday life in a *We Learn Together* day care

In a *We Learn Together* day care, your child will be part of several different kinds of educational situations every day. You will see *We Learn Together* posters and pictures hanging on the walls, which give the pedagogical staff good opportunities to start a dialogue with you about your child's experiences and development.



We Learn Together consists of different themes and a pedagogical framework that supports children based on knowledge of what children can learn at which point, and how they learn.

Based on this framework, the staff plans which games and activities they will do together with the children in both large and small groups. The pedagogical work takes place in three ways, based on the child’s daily life in day care: immersion, focus and exploration.

We Learn together also helps the pedagogical staff to create rich conversations and activities based on the needs of each child.

Immersion: Planned activities and games for large and small groups of children

Focus: One-on-one conversations that support the individual child’s development in the daily routines

Exploration: Exploration zones for children that support the individual child’s initiative, curiosity and learning



The collaboration with parents

When your day care has got off to a good start with *We learn together*, you will get more information at parent's meeting.

You will also receive the *Language Tips of the Week*, which will give you simple ideas on how you during everyday routines can strengthen your child's development through games and conversations, without requiring a whole lot.

You will also get tips on how to strengthen your child's learning when you read books together and in everyday conversations.



Pedagogical employee from *We Learn Together*

"It has been great to see both children and parents talking about the new words as well as pausing in the hallway where all the pictures have been. Here, parents and children paused in the morning and a nice dialogue has started."



EXAMPLE: LANGUAGE TIP OF THE WEEK - YOUNGER CHILDREN



Make it an activity to make dinner together with your child and teach your child words about sizes at the same time e.g., *big, small, long, short, thick and thin*. Tell your child what kind of food you are going to make and talk about the different ingredients you need. For example, you can help each other rinse and cook the vegetables. Then you can cut the vegetables into short, long, thick and thin pieces. Talk about the different sizes along the way.

While you cook, you can offer your child to smell, taste and feel the vegetables. For example, say: Do you want to taste the long or short piece of cucumber? Or the thick or thin slice of potato? Listen to your child and let them contribute. Follow your child's curiosity and interests. Be present and have fun together.

Your child learns:

- Being able to understand and use typical words for sizes

EXAMPLE: LANGUAGE TIP OF THE WEEK - OLDER CHILDREN



Help your child recognize and name words for emotions, such as *excited, satisfied, relieved, disappointed, furious, angry, sad, and worried*. You can draw round heads on a paper and draw different emotions on each head. Talk about what emotions mean and how you look in your face when you feel that way. You can also talk about what situations in everyday life the child has tried to feel this way.

Your child learns:

- Being able to understand and use words for emotions
- Recognizing and naming one's own and others' feelings

Research

More than 15,000 children and a quarter of the Danish municipalities have participated in surveys of *We Learn Together*. Research shows that children in day cares who work with *We Learn Together* develop significantly more compared to children who do not participate in *We Learn Together*.

Daycare

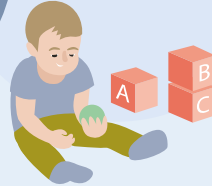
44 per cent extra learning in understanding abstract concepts such as patterns, shapes and sizes



25 per cent extra learning in understanding numbers



Children understand 18 per cent more words and express 9 per cent more words



Kindergarten

68 per cent extra learning in vocabulary



138 per cent extra learning in written attention



45 per cent extra learning in rhymes



Research shows that...

- *We Learn Together* strengthens the development of all children regardless of gender, age, origin and social conditions
- The completion rate of *We Learn Together* has a major impact on whether the intervention is working. The more *We Learn Together* activities the children participate in, the greater the development
- A new long-term study of the SPELL initiative, which corresponds to *We Learn Together*, shows that children who typically have a hard time at school become significantly better readers in 2nd grade if they went to kindergartens that performed SPELL.

Pedagogical employee from *We Learn Together*

"The materials have been very useful and easy to use. It quickly became part of everyday life, and the images caught the children's attention. It has worked well that every week has a certain focus area, and super well that the different themes have repetitions. It has given me as a pedagogue a whole new way of thinking about children's learning".

A unified package

All day cares receive a complete package of image materials for the themes and learning strategies to involve, support and challenge the individual child.





Learn more about *We Learn Together*

You can find information and a short video about *We Learn Together* on TrygFonden's Centre for Child Research website:

childresearch.au.dk/vls