

THE PURPOSE OF PLAY

1

Play comes from the child

It needs to be meaningful to the child.

2

Play is unique to every child

Let your child know you are there. This helps your child feel safe to explore.

3

Play is how children learn and experiment

Offer your child help and new ideas. This helps your child try new things.

4

Play can have lots of different emotions

Talk about what your child is doing and feeling. This helps your child learn to use words.

5

Play can happen any time and anywhere

Watch and step in to make play safe. This helps your child learn to play safely.

6

Children need different kinds of play

Help your child play in different ways and different places.

7

Play with people helps children understand other people

Help your child play with different people. This helps your child learn about people.

8

Play helps everyone learn about the child

Play helps children learn what they can do.

9

Play can help children use their voice

See the GM's 10 Top Tips for Talking for more ideas.

10

Play can help children use their strength

See GM's 10 Top Tips for Moving and 10 Top Tips for Thriving for more ideas.



The Purpose of Play tips are part of Greater Manchester's work to give every child the best start in life.

Find out more at [greetermanchester-ca.gov.uk](https://www.greetermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

You can also find more tips, advice, activities and short films at www.bbc.co.uk/tinyhappypeople

