

# Early Intervention Family Worker Newsletter

## 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

### Early Intervention Family Workers

are linked to Primary Schools and are available to provide information, support and signposting for parents.

The St. Neots area is covered by Lorraine Simon and Charlotte Dean, and we are working virtually at present, providing phone and email support. Feel free to get in touch via the contact details at the bottom of this newsletter.

### Activity Idea

#### Chalk obstacle course:

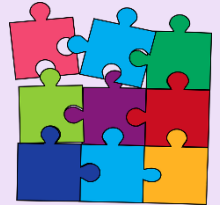
With the weather getting warmer and sunnier, we're all going to want to be outside more. All you need for this activity is some chalk and a bit of imagination. Draw a hopscotch-like grid, but in each square write a fun movement. For example 'jump like a kangaroo', 'touch your toes', 'clap your hands above your head', 'balance on one leg until you count to 5' or 'spin around twice'. Once each child has had a go, you could start to time them to see who can do it the quickest. Next, let your children think up some fun ideas and add them to the obstacle course for the next turn.



### Parenting Top Tip

#### Building independence:

One way we can build independence in our children is by letting them problem solve.



As parents we can see our children struggling and assume they must be feeling stressed or frustrated, but actually they are just learning. Rather than jumping in and trying to fix things straight away, allow them to make mistakes and get things wrong. This is exactly how we all learn. Maybe your child is having a go at tying their shoelaces but it's not going right just yet, or their puzzle is taking longer than you thought it would, or they're playing with a friend who isn't sharing. Wait to see if they ask for help before stepping in. You can continue to build on their independence by letting them know you are proud of them by praising their effort: 'I'm really proud of you for sticking with that puzzle even though it was difficult'.

### Another Resource

Mother's Day is coming up this week, but for some children this can be a difficult topic. Childline has some helpful advice:

[www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/home-families/seasonal-events/mothers-day/](http://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/home-families/seasonal-events/mothers-day/)

**Does** your child have, or potentially have, an additional need or disability? Pinpoint ([www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk](http://www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk)) have lots of information, advice and tips. For Cambridgeshire's Local Offer go to [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer)