PLAYING and LEARNING TOGETHER
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**User Guide**

**PLAYING and LEARNING TOGETHER** incorporates two levels for adult ESL learners. Level 1 is aimed at students, particularly those who have had little formal education, who are developing foundation reading skills. Level 2 is aimed at students who have developed foundation reading skills. Images play an important part throughout the module, either as preliminary support for Level 1 or supplementary support for Level 2.

The units do not need to be used sequentially.

**Unit 1** presents Level 1 activities and begins with the story *Aisha and Ali*. This is comprised of images with simple text followed by text only. The exercises relate to the story and reinforce the vocabulary. Hands-on activities such as the jigsaw puzzle and uncooked playdough recipe are a fun way of reinforcing the vocabulary.

**Unit 2** presents Level 2 activities and also begins with the story *Aisha and Ali*. The exercises relate to the Level 2 version of the story.

**Unit 3** focuses on ways in which children learn through experiential activities and is aimed at Level 1. The exercises relate to the preliminary images.

**Unit 4** focuses on cultural norms in Australia and can be used with both Level 1 and Level 2 students accordingly.
Aisha and Ali

Level 1
Module: PLAYING AND LEARNING TOGETHER
Language and Ideas for Parents/Grandparents

Purpose

- To develop awareness of the importance of playing and learning through interaction between the child and the adult

- To develop awareness that learning through play is fundamental to learning processes

- To develop awareness that learning takes place through many types of experiences

- To develop awareness of experiences which can be provided for the child in the home

- To develop awareness of cultural norms in Australia
Aisha and Ali

Level 1

Playing and Learning Together
Aisha and her children

Ali
Aisha and Ali are talking

Aisha and Ali are reading
Aisha and Ali are writing

Aisha and Ali are building
Aisha and Ali are counting

Aisha and Ali are mixing
Aisha and Ali are swimming

Aisha and Ali are both learning many things
Aisha and her children are living in Australia. The youngest child, Ali, is too young for school or kindergarten. He stays at home with his mother.

Aisha looks after her family. She also plays with Ali and teaches him many things.

Ali likes talking. Aisha talks with him.

Ali likes books. Aisha reads to him.

Ali likes crayons and pencils. Aisha writes and draws with him.


Ali likes swimming. Aisha swims with him at the local pool.

Aisha and Ali are both learning many things.
Aisha and Ali Vocabulary (Level 1)

Underline These Words in the Story

the  talking  talks
and  reading  reads
is  writing  writes
in  drawing  draws
to  building
at  counting
or  mixing
for  swimming  swims
he  learning
she
him
her
with
both
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sight Words</th>
<th>Sight Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>the</td>
<td>for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in</td>
<td>to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at</td>
<td>her</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>both</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>talking</td>
<td>counting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reading</td>
<td>mixing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>writing</td>
<td>swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drawing</td>
<td>learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>building</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Construct the Sentences
(using the sight words)
1. he is talking
2. he is swimming
3. he is mixing
4. she is reading
5. she is drawing
6. she is counting

Correct the Sentences
(using the sight words)
7. her with talking he is

8. swimming he her is with

9. she building is him with

10. writing both are
Aisha and Ali (Level 1)
Answer the Questions

1. What is the mother’s name?

____________________________________________________________

2. Who is the youngest child?

____________________________________________________________

3. What does the child like to read?

____________________________________________________________

4. What does the child like to mix?

____________________________________________________________

5. Where does the child like to swim?

____________________________________________________________
Answers to Answer the Questions (Level 1)

1. The mother’s name is **Aisha**
2. The youngest child is **Ali**
3. The child likes to read **books**
4. The child likes to mix **meals**
5. The child likes to swim at the **local pool**
Ali  he  Aisha  she  they  
(Level 1)

A_______ likes mixing  
h_______ likes mixing  
A_______ likes mixing  
s_______ likes mixing  
t_______ like mixing

________ likes swimming  
________ likes swimming  
________ likes swimming  
________ likes swimming  
________ like swimming
Aisha and Ali (Level 1)
Write the Words in Alphabetical Order

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>talking</th>
<th>reading</th>
<th>writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>drawing</td>
<td>building</td>
<td>counting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mixing</td>
<td>learning</td>
<td>swimming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. ____________________
2. ____________________
3. ____________________
4. ____________________
5. ____________________
6. ____________________
7. ____________________
8. ____________________
9. ____________________

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z
Ali likes mixing
Uncooked Playdough Recipe

what do I need?

plain flour 1 cup

salt \( \frac{1}{4} \) cup

cooking oil 1 tablespoon

food colouring 6 drops

water \( \frac{1}{2} \) cup

bowl spoon
how do I make it?

Mix flour + in

Add oil + in

Mix +

Add to

Knead until smooth

Have fun
Aisha and Ali

Level 2
Aisha and her children are living in Australia. The older children are attending secondary school, the younger children are attending primary school and the youngest, Ali, is not yet old enough for school or kindergarten.

At home Aisha and her family do things such as cleaning, shopping, cooking and gardening. Aisha also plays with Ali and teaches him many things.

Ali likes talking. Aisha speaks to Ali in her first language and also practises English. Ali is learning words in both languages.

Ali likes books. Aisha sometimes buys him a children’s book as a treat. Every week she takes him to the local library where he chooses three books with colourful pictures and some new words.

Ali likes crayons and pencils. Aisha gives him paper on which he likes to draw people and cars, and together they practise writing letters and numbers.

Ali likes building. Aisha borrows toy blocks from the local toy library and Ali constructs buildings. He proudly shows his mother how high he can build.

Ali likes counting. Aisha teaches Ali how to count by playing games and singing number songs which she learnt as a child.

Ali likes mixing. Aisha lets him put ingredients in a bowl and mix them together to make something special for his brothers and sisters to eat.
Ali likes swimming. Aisha takes him to the local pool where he splashes and plays with other young children. She also enjoys being in the water and holding Ali’s hands as he practises swimming.

Ali is a well behaved child. He shares toys, speaks politely to people and enjoys helping Aisha with some of the domestic jobs. But sometimes he tries to do something which he is not allowed to do and she must say “No!” She uses her voice to discipline him and teach him what is wrong and what is right.

Every day is a busy day for Aisha. In her new country of Australia there are many things to do and learn. She understands how important it is to also play with Ali and together they enjoy learning many things.
Answer the Questions – Aisha and Ali (Level 2)

1. Ali is not attending school? Why?
   _____________________________________________________________

2. List the jobs done by Aisha and her family.
   _____________________________________________________________

3. Ali likes talking. What does Aisha do with him?
   _____________________________________________________________

4. Ali likes books. Where does Aisha take him?
   _____________________________________________________________

5. Ali likes crayons and pencils. What does he practise?
   _____________________________________________________________

6. Ali likes building. What does he proudly show his mother?
   _____________________________________________________________

7. Ali likes counting. What do he and Aisha do together?
   _____________________________________________________________

8. Ali likes mixing. What does he make?
   _____________________________________________________________

9. Ali likes swimming. Where does Aisha take him and what does he practise?
   _____________________________________________________________

10. How does Aisha discipline him?
    _____________________________________________________________
Answers to Answer the Questions (Level 2)

1. Ali is not attending school because he is not yet old enough
2. Aisha and her family do cleaning, shopping, cooking and gardening
3. Aisha speaks to him in her first language and also practises English
4. Aisha takes him to the local library
5. He practises writing letters and numbers
6. He proudly shows his mother how high he can build
7. He and Aisha count by playing games and singing number songs which she learnt as a child
8. He makes something special for his brothers and sisters to eat
9. Aisha takes him to the local pool. He practises swimming
10. Aisha disciplines him by using her voice and teaching him what is wrong and what is right
Aisha and her children are living in Australia.

Ali is not yet old enough for school or kindergarten.

At home Aisha and her family do things such as cleaning, shopping, cooking and gardening.

Aisha also plays with Ali and teaches him many things.

Ali likes talking.

Ali is learning words in both languages.
Ali likes books.

Every week she takes him to the local library.

Ali likes crayons and pencils.

Together they practise writing letters and numbers.

Ali likes building.

He proudly shows his mother how high he can build.
Ali likes counting.

Aisha teaches Ali how to count by playing games and singing number songs.

Ali likes mixing.

Aisha lets him put ingredients in a bowl.

Ali likes swimming.

Aisha takes him to the local pool.
Ali is a well behaved child.

She uses her voice to discipline him and teach what is wrong and what is right.

She understands how important it is to also Play with Ali and together they enjoy Learning many things.
Aisha and her __________________ are ______________ in Australia. The ______________ children are attending secondary school, the __________________ children are ______________ primary school and the ____________, Ali, is not yet old ______________ for school or kindergarten.

At home Aisha and her family do things such as cleaning, _________________, cooking and gardening. Aisha also plays with Ali and _______________ him many things.
Aisha and Ali (Level 2)

Unscramble the Words

1. gniilv
2. nergouy
3. chestea
4. denting at
5. tacprises
6. oshsoec
7. burmen
8. vebhade
9. yuncrot
10. garlinen
11. tairAlusa
12. iralbyr
Answers to Unscramble the Words

living younger teaches attending practises chooses
number behaved country learning Australia library
Playdough Recipe

2 cups plain flour
½ cup salt
4 tsp cream of tartar
2 cups water
colouring

- Combine dry ingredients in a saucepan.
- Add water and colouring. Mix well.
- Cook over medium to high heat. Stir frequently until mixture begins to thicken and form a firm ball.
- Remove from heat and knead when cool enough.
- Store in air-tight container.
UNIT 3

I Am We Are

Level 1
how do we learn?

brain power

senses

experiences

interaction
I Am, We Are - contents

Image 1. “Do you understand early childhood education?”

Image 2. Three boys with pot plants

Image 3. One girl finger-painting

Image 4. Two girls + adult drawing

Image 5. Two girls constructing with soft cubes

Image 6. One boy reading

Image 7. Three boys matching letters

Image 8. One girl + adult creating with play dough

Image 9. One boy + mother arriving at pre school

Image 10. One girl with iPad

Image 11. One girl with magnifying glass

Image 12. “I tried to be normal once”
1. Do you understand early childhood education?

2.
5. 

6. 

Playing and Learning Together
11. Playing and Learning Together

12. I tried to be normal once.

Worst two minutes of my life!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>I Am, We Are - text</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>I am learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>we are planting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>we are drawing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>we are building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>I am arriving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>I am painting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>I am reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>we are reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>we are creating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>I am clicking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>I am looking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>we are dancing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I Am, We Are Sight Words

I am
we are
learning
planting
drawing
building
arriving
painting
reading
creating
clicking
looking
dancing
Fill in the Missing Word (Level 1)

am       are

1. I ______ learning

2. we _____ planting

3. we _____ drawing

4. we _____ building

5. I ______ arriving

6. I ______ painting
Match the Picture to the Text

we are building

I am arriving

I am painting

I am learning

we are planting

we are drawing
Match the Picture to the Text

- We are creating
- We are dancing
- I am looking
- I am reading
- I am clicking

- We are reading

Playing and Learning Together
I Am, We Are
Discussion

Look at pictures 1 to 12

1. What can you see? Create a vocab list.

2. What are the people doing?

3. What is the child learning?

4. Find a picture that is about reading. What are they reading?

5. What reading items are in your home?
   - books
   - newspapers
   - magazines
   - mobile phones
   - instruction booklets
   - product information
   - telephone directory
   - electricity account
UNIT 4

Cultural Norms in Australia

Level 1 & 2
CULTURAL NORMS in AUSTRALIA

Definition: standard, usual, recognized, expected behaviour/practice.

Examples:
- Playing and learning are often sensory experiences. It is acceptable for a child to get dirty or messy while playing.
- Playing and learning can involve responsibility. It is acceptable for a child to take care of toys and put them away when not being used.
- Playing and learning can be interactive. It is acceptable for a child to ask questions and talk about what they are doing.
- Playing and learning can involve discipline. It is acceptable to acknowledge good behavior and unacceptable to beat a child.
- Men can assist with children. It is acceptable for them to play, read, cook with and take children to and from child-care/school.
Cultural Norms in Australia

Playing and learning can involve responsibility eg it is Acceptable for a child to take care of toys and put them away when not being used.
Cultural Norms in Australia

Playing and learning are often sensory experiences. It is acceptable for a child to get dirty or messy while playing.
Cultural Norms in Australia

Playing and learning can be interactive. It is acceptable for a child to ask questions and talk about what they are doing.
Cultural Norms in Australia

Playing and learning can involve discipline. It is acceptable to acknowledge good behaviour and unacceptable to beat a child.
Cultural Norms in Australia

Men can assist with children. It is acceptable for them to play, read, cook with and take children to and from child-care/school.
Cultural Norms in Australia Sight Words

- playing
- responsibility
- learning
- interactive
- sensory
- acknowledge
- experiences
- good
- acceptable
- behaviour
- messy
- men
- dirty
- assist
CULTURAL NORMS IN AUSTRALIA

Discussion

- Observe the images of Cultural Norms in Australia.
  1. What can you see in the picture?
  2. Who is in the picture?
  3. Where are they?
  4. What are they doing?
  5. What are they saying?
  6. What do you think about the behaviour?
  7. Do your children/grandchildren play like this?

- Make a list of things which your mature-age students do with their child/children. Compare the examples of cultural norms mentioned on Pages 51-55 with examples on the list.
  1. Are they the same or different?
  2. In which ways are they the same/different?