



# PLAYING and LEARNING TOGETHER



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MIRRABOOKA  
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**Playing and Learning Together**

## 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.



# UNIT 1



**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

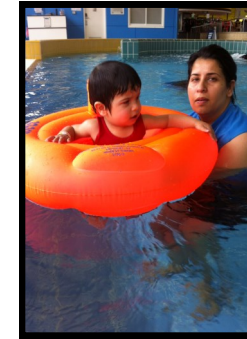


Aisha and Ali are mixing

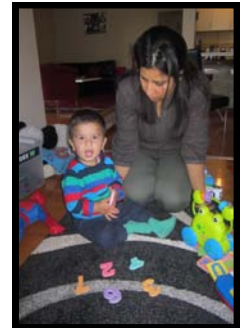




Aisha and Ali are swimming



Aisha and Ali are both learning many things



### STORY – *Aisha and Ali* (Level 1)

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 building. Aisha constructs toy blocks with him.

Ali likes counting. Aisha plays counting games with him.

Ali likes mixing. Aisha prepares meals 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



*Aisha and Ali* - sight words (Level 1)

the

for

he

and

is

she

in

to

him

at

her

with

or

both

talking

counting

reading

mixing

writing

swimming

drawing

learning

building

# 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



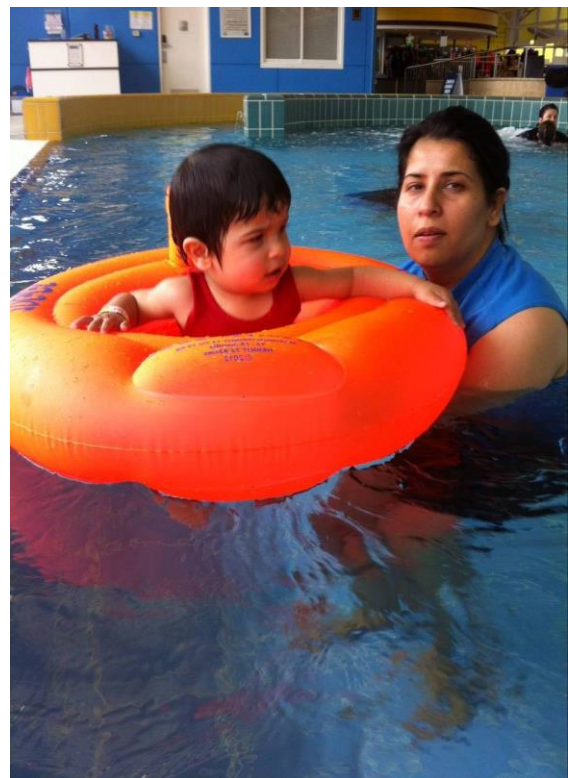
\_\_\_\_\_ likes swimming

\_\_\_\_\_ likes swimming

\_\_\_\_\_ likes swimming

\_\_\_\_\_ likes swimming

\_\_\_\_\_ like swimming



*Aisha and Ali (Level 1)*

Write the Words in Alphabetical Order

talking    reading    writing  
drawing    building    counting  
mixing    learning    swimming

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







# 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



+



in



add



in



mix



+



add to



knead until smooth



have fun



# UNIT 2



**Aisha and Ali**

**Level 2**

# Aisha and Ali



Level 2

## **STORY – 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 Ali (Level 2)***

### **New Words**

Fill in the blanks in the paragraphs using the words below.

enough  
younger  
attending

shopping  
living  
older

teaches  
youngest  
children

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. chesteat \_\_\_\_\_
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.



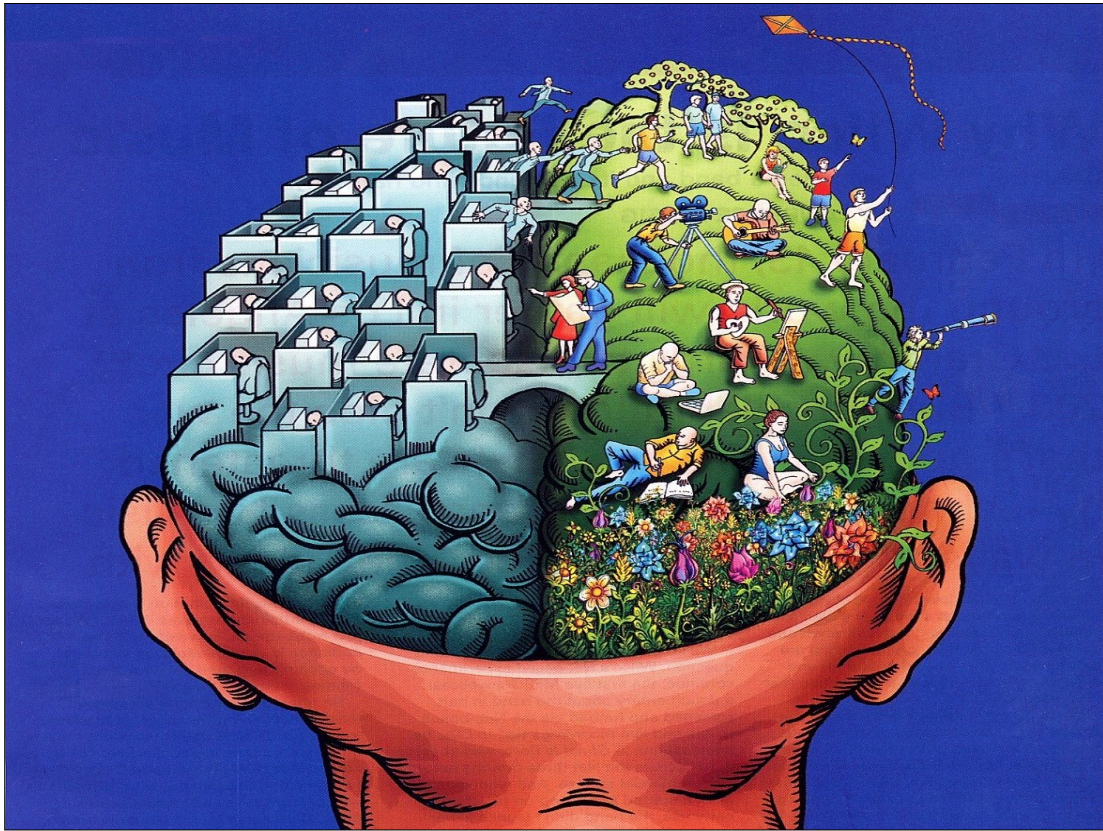


# UNIT 3



**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

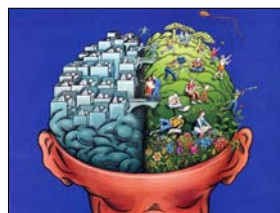
Image 8. One girl + adult creating with play dough

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.



2.







3.



4.

5.



6.





7.



8.



9.



10.





11.



12.





## I Am, We Are - text



1. I am learning	7. I am reading
2. we are planting	8. we are reading
3. we are drawing	9. we are creating
4. we are building	10. I am clicking
5. I am arriving	11. I am looking
6. I am painting	12. we are dancing



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

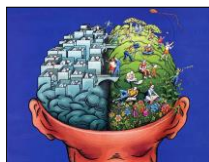


we are reading

# 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?

