

Games



For most of us, our day to day lives now are unrecognisable from our normal structured lifestyles. Many of us are concerned that children are spending more time “just playing”. It is so important for us to realise that play is learning and is essential for children’s academic development, overall development and health and wellbeing.

Playing games both indoor and outdoor provides a wealth of opportunities for learning. Games provide flexibility, enhanced motivation, allow the adult to establish a variety of educational goals, and provides an opportunity for the adult to evaluate the child’s learning.

Games that support learning can include the list below, but the options are endless:

<u>Indoor</u>	<u>Outdoor</u>
Casino	Ball Games
Pictionary/Charades	Traditional Races
Taboo	Obstacle Course
Bingo	Hopscotch
Twisters	Waterplay
Headbanz	Skiping

Jenga	Treasure Hunts
Memory	Parachute Games
Hangman	Chalk Games

When students are engaged in any game, they will be learning new skills and reinforcing existing skillsets. Numerous elements within their priority learning units (PLUs) will be targeted. Playing games allows for unlimited cross curricular learning and connections.

As always, the priority for our students is providing engaging activities that offer the opportunity to reinforce key skills and support the acquisition of life skills that will allow for the most independence moving forward.

Play also supports the student's sensory needs and is vital for the student's wellbeing

Having fun together is always a highlight and the social element is key. For further information and links to many useful resources, the JCT website is an invaluable resource www.JCT.ie

Some useful websites:

<http://www.kahoot.com>

<http://www.middletown.com>

<http://sensationalkids.ie>