

August 2020



Welcome to our August Newsletter

We hope you are all safe and well and settling back in to your new routines. PlayBase is open, however, we too have some new routines in place.

To continue to keep staff and members safe, we are operating by appointment only and not currently receiving visitors in to PlayBase

This shouldn't be a barrier to borrowing as you can still access resources by:

BORROWING:

- Browse our updated pdf catalogues on our web site: www.midlothianplaybase.org
- Order resources directly through the web site by email, quoting catalogue numbers
- Phoning us directly – 0131 654 9990 – with requests. We can quickly put things together to meet your needs.
- Emailing: infoplaybase@midlothianplaybase.org with requests

Upon receiving your requests for resources we will select your resources and place them in a sealed bag awaiting collection.

COLLECTION:

- By pre-booked pick-up time to suit you
- Resources in sealed bag

QUARRANTINE:

- Current guidance advises 72 hours quarantine. Please keep resources in sealed bag for 72 hours after picking up from PlayBase

RETURNS:

- Loan periods are for 8 weeks
- PlayBase will contact you in advance of your return date
- Please ensure resources are complete and cleaned as per current guidance
- Resources MUST be returned in sealed bag they were collected in
- Arrange a return day and time to suit you

RESOURCES:

Story/Rhyme Baskets

We are in the process of increasing our song/rhyme and storytelling baskets. We will post up a list of them on Facebook and Twitter once completed.



Got a favourite story? Please do let us know of any you would like added.

You can purchase Rhyme/Story baskets from PlayBase for your setting. Interested? Please get in touch. : infoplaybase@midlothianplaybase.org

INTEREST TRAYS

In partnership with Midlothian Council EYO's we have created various compact interest trays for small group play. The trays will include small world, fact/fiction book, and visual prompts of songs, stories and ideas to extend use. Thanks to Kirsty Drummond and Emma Laverie for their support and input.

The aim of the idea is to streamline resource quantities being borrowed, whilst still offering interesting play opportunities for children. The smaller quantities of resources will be easier to manage by staff for cleaning, and health and safety purposes.

The Interest Trays will be trialed with one of our member groups to gain feedback, if effective, we will then create further trays and offer these to more members.

Please get in touch if this is of interest to your group, also, let us know of any type of Interest Tray you would like to see created.

See photographs below for examples of Interest Trays.

Examples of Interest Trays: Farming, Harvest & Construction



Reference books:

We have a library of reference books for borrowing suitable for Early Learning and Childcare study from level 3 through to PDA/BA in childhood practice.

Please get in touch if this would be of use to you, we can email you out a full list.

Email: infoplaybase@midlothianplaybase.org

Peep – continue to run their virtual sessions for families. We have developed a Virtual Peep Kit which has everything needed to support the delivery of an effective Peep Learning together session. Peep Leaders please get in touch to arrange uplift.

infoplaybase@midlothianplaybase.org



Membership – PlayBase membership was due for renewal 01 April 2020. Due to Covid-19 forcing PlayBase to close we have not yet sent out membership invoices for 2020/21.

We rely heavily on your membership fees to allow us to replace and replenish missing and broken items of which we have suffered a significant increase.

We continue to keep our membership fees affordable to ensure all are able to access the Resource Base. We will not be increasing our membership fees this year. We are seeking your support and would be grateful if you would consider paying the full membership fee for 2020/21.

We will forward invoices for payment by the end of August.

For Local Authority members I am pleased to advise that Midlothian Council will continue to support your setting and PlayBase by meeting the cost of local authority memberships.

We are all facing many challenges going forward. PlayBase will continue to provide a service that evolves and supports your group through these testing times. We aim to continue to provide a quality service to you to ensure a PlayBase membership remains good value.

Many thanks for your continued support. It is greatly appreciated.

Feedback- we are currently gathering feedback from some members as to how and what resources they will borrow. Please do get in touch to let us know how we can best support your setting.

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