What is Playtime?

Learning is fun at playschool!

Playtime is a three level course for children learning English in preschool. It has been specifically developed with the needs and abilities of this age group in mind. All the activities, games, songs, chants and stories have been carefully chosen to make sure your child has a motivating learning experience. They will learn words and basic expressions, songs and chants and they will listen to stories and act them out. At this age, the emphasis is on listening and speaking or using actions to illustrate meaning.

Each level includes beautifully illustrated and recorded stories. There is a specially written song in each story which helps to create a truly integrated learning experience for your child. The stories are mostly set within the reassuring context of a playschool, just like where your child goes to school!

Children characters

When using Playtime your child will be learning English with the help of the characters Rocket, Star, Twig, Melody and Monkey. Your child will learn all about their adventures at playschool, adventures that are easy for a small child to relate to.

The four children characters are friends and help each other out when they fall over or get into the little scrapes that children get into. They all have different characteristics and personalities, to reflect the different characters that exist in most young children, so children will easily be able to relate to them. As the children experience various things at playschool, your child will also learn about how to share, get on with others and learn about other such areas of citizenship.

Rocket

Rocket is a boy full of energy and also full of curiosity. He is keen to know more and will rush into things for the right reasons but sometimes in the wrong way. Luckily he can always rely on his friends to help him out! He needs friends and is lonely without people around him. He talks a lot and likes to joke and laugh. Rocket learns best by doing.

Rocket has a toy monkey, which he has with him almost all the time.
Monkey
In addition to the four children characters, there is also Monkey. Monkey is Rocket's toy and is carried around by Rocket most of the time. He is worn around Rocket's neck and waist. At school, your child's teacher will probably use a special monkey puppet during English lessons. This cuddly, friendly puppet will help motivate your child during English lessons. Importantly, Monkey only speaks English which will encourage your child to try to speak English.

Star
Star is also adventurous, but likes to plan first so she always carries a little backpack around with her, often containing the tissue / plaster / sticker to make everything better!

She is a reliable organiser. In this way she complements Rocket who is impetuous but fun. She will say what they should do next, unlike Rocket who will rush off to do something and then wonder why no-one has followed him!

Twig
Twig can often be found lying on the floor fascinated by nature, whether it's a beetle, spider, bird or animal. He also likes to find out how things work and what they are made of.

He is quite shy compared to Rocket, but well liked by all his friends. He's kind and gentle.

Melody
Melody is very creative and dreamier in nature than Star. She is often distracted and humming or sketching and drawing with all the coloured pencils scattered in front of her. She is usually the first to sing a song.

She helps to solve a lot of the situations where creative thinking is required rather than Star's practicality, Rocket's energy or Twig's knowledge.