

TERM 3 FOCUS IN THE NGARTO ROOM.

THIS TERM WE ARE LOOKING AT RISK TAKING, WHAT THIS MEANS TO THE CHILDREN IN OUR ROOM AND WHAT WE CAN DO AS CARERS TO ENCOURAGE RISK TAKING'

RISK TAKING CAN MEAN MANY DIFFERENT THINGS FOR CHILDREN OF THIS AGE.

SOME OF THE THINGS THAT WE SEE YOUR CHILDREN TAKING RISKS WITH ARE:

- STARTING CHILD CARE AND LETTING PARENTS LEAVE.
- ROLLING
- SITTING BY THEMSELVES
- PLAYING WITH NEW CHILDREN THAT THEY MEET IN THE ROOM
- STARTING TO CRAWL AND WALK
- MOVING FROM THE COT TO THE MATTRESS
- MOVING FROM THE HIGH CHAIR TO THE TABLE
- FEEDING THEMSELVES
- CLIMBING THE STEPS IN THE CHANGE ROOM.
- JUMPING ON THE TRAMPS
- RIDING THE BIKES
- ROLLING DOWN THE MOUND
- VISITING THE MULYO ROOM FOR THE FIRST TIME
- MEETING NEW STAFF
- GOING DOWN THE SLIPPERY DIPS
- CLIMBING UP TO THE SLIPPERY DIP
- GOING ON THE BALANCING BEAM
- SWINGING

THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE RISKS YOUR CHILDREN TAKE EVERYDAY JUST WITHIN THE CHILD CARE SETTING. THEY TAKE MANY MORE RISKS WHILE THEY ARE IN YOUR CARE ALSO. BEING LEFT AT GRANDMA AND GRANDADS OR AUNTS OR UNCLE FOR THE NIGHT IS ALSO A RISK.

IN RESEARHING RISK TAKING WE FEEL THAT ALLOWING CHILDREN TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN RISK TAKING ACTIVITIES ENCOURAGES DEVELOPMENT BOTH IN CONFIDENCE AND BELIEF IN THEIR ABILITY. CHILDREN THAT ARE ALLOWED TO TAKE RISKS LEARN THEIR OWN LIMITS AND WORK AND PLAY WITHIN THEM.

RISK TAKING IS NOT ALWAYS EASY AND CAN RESULT IN SOME MINOR BUMPS AND BRUISES. CHILDREN NEED THESE BUMPS AND BRUISES TO UNDERSTAND THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTIONS AND HOW AND WHEN THEY NEED TO BE SAFE. THESE BUMPS AND BRUISES ARE A BADGE OF HONOR SHOWING LEARNING, DEVELOPMENT, PERSISTANCE AND ADVENTURE AND ALLOW CHILDREN TO HAVE A SENSE OF

ACHIEVEMENT AND AN ATTITUDE THAT THEY CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING IF THEY JUST GIVE IT A GO.

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE 'HOW TO ALLOW CHILDREN TO TAKE RISKS' SHOWS THE ADVANTAGES ASSOCIATED WITH RISK TAKING.

IF YOU CAN REMEMBER BACK TO THE MOST ADVENTUROUS TIMES OF YOUR CHILD HOOD IT WOULD BE OF FOND MEMORIES OF TAKING RISKS AND NOT HAVING AN ADULT 'DO IT FOR YOU' OR TELLING YOU NOT TO. YOUR CHILDREN SOMETIMES NEED YOU TO STAND BACK AND WATCH THEM ACHIEVE BUT BE THERE WHEN THEY NEED YOUR HELP.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN YOU ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO TAKE UNHEALTHY OR DANGEROUS RISKS. CHILDREN WILL LEARN THEIR OWN BOUNDRIES AND ABILITIES FROM BEING TRUSTED TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION ABOUT THE RISKS THEY SHOULD TAKE.



CORBY LEARNING TO CLIMB TO NEW HEIGHTS



FOLLOW THE LEADER ON THE BALANCE BEAM





I THINK I
CAN.....
.....
.AND I DID

OBSTACLE



DINING AT THE TABLE



ONWARD TO DIZZYING HEIGHT



LUNCH TIME IN TODDLERS IS VERY DIFFERENT

I WILL MAKE MYSELF COMFORTABLE IN THIS CHAIR



SLIP SLIDING
AWAY





HAPPY
BIRTHDAY TO
POPPY IN THE
MULYO ROOM

I WILL HELP YOU
TO WASH YOUR
HANDS
CHARLIE.....NEW
FRIENDS IN THE
MULYO ROOM





NOW YOU GO ALONG HERE AND THEN TAKE A LEFT AT THE NEXT JUNCTION



MMMMMMMMMMMMMM.....WHO NEEDS A SPOON?

NOW WHICH WAY DO I GO NOW.....DECISIONSDECISIONS



THESE SHOES WEREN'T MADE FOR WALKING.....BUT THEY DO SHOW OFF THE LEGS



COME ON THEY ARE WAITING FOR US IN THE MULYO ROOM

How to Allow Children to Take Risks

Edited by IngeborgK, Teresa, Nicklepicklepie, EuroFight and 2 others

Taking risks means doing something that is outside one's comfort zone. For some children, taking risks comes naturally. These children take risks without realizing it because it is in their nature to be adventurous. However, there are children who are fearful of taking risks because it is out of the norm. For this reason, parents need to find ways to encourage risk taking. If you are in search of ways to allow children to take risks, consider the following list of steps.

1

Understand the value in taking risks and the reasons why you should encourage your child to do it. As adults, risk takers sometimes start their own business, travel the world or climb mountains. Allowing your children to take more risks means that you are providing them with opportunities to reach out beyond their current situations and strive for more.

2

Learn the difference between healthy and unhealthy risks. As you allow your children to take more risks, realize that there are situations that are risky to an extreme, thus making the risk dangerous and irresponsible

3

Evaluate risky situations before allowing your child to be a part of them. As a parent, it is your responsibility to decide which risks your child should take. If the risk could result in a life-threatening consequence, then do not allow it.

- If the risk has a negative consequence, but that consequence is not serious, then you may consider allowing your child to take that risk. In doing so, your child will learn from the consequence. Understanding the consequences associated with risks is also a necessary lesson for children.
- Use moments of negative consequence as teaching opportunities. For example, if your young child falls down a slide after trying to climb it, use that situation to explain that slides are made for sliding down. This lesson teaches your child about following rules and using equipment in the manner for which it was created. If your child scrapes a knee from falling off a bike, explain that getting hurt does not mean you should give up.
- Recognize that healthy risk taking is necessary for the development of children. When children take healthy risks, they become more creative and self-confident as they grow older. Additionally, young risk takers become more resilient and less fearful.

4

Lead by example if you want your children to take more risks. Children who see their parents taking risks are more inclined to do the same. So make sure that you are being sensible in your risk taking endeavours if you want your children to emulate you.

5

Provide safe and healthy opportunities for your children to take risks, and then stand back. For example, you can take them to an adventure park and encourage them to go down a large slide or climb a climbing wall.