Give children time to play in their own way

Consider social and emotional learning in all that children do.
**Many ways of knowing, being and doing**

- Play is valuable for learning.
- Children manage best when they can do things their way, in their own time.
- Different ways of knowing must be explored.
- Play is really important throughout early childhood—birth to 8 years.

**Learning map**

- Create many contexts for exploring emotions in play.
- Plan for children to have control over their play environment.
- Children record and recall their play experiences—stories, photos, drawings.
- Record children's experiences of good feelings in play.

**Many ways of doing**

- Encourage children to take healthy risks.
- Support children when they feel sad/happy, anxious or shame.
- Know when to stand back and trust children.
- Provide space for children to recreate experiences from ‘home life’.

**Connecting to Community**

- Connect in conversations with children when they want to talk in play.
- Effective play environments reflect homes and community in authentic ways.
- Connect with culture—encourage children to revisit their experiences through play.
- Share children's play stories between families and educators.