Recommendations for parents/guardians:

1. These resources have been prepared for children to learn from and enjoy together with caring adults, and for adults to enjoy spending quality time with young children while supporting the child’s holistic development. The various learning experiences emerge and build around a story, rather than from the child’s interest (as in the case of the emergent curriculum approach). Each story presents opportunities, within a context, for the development of different areas of learning, in an integrated approach (language, science, mathematics and others).

2. Have a look at the learning experience before you engage your child. You might need to prepare some resources.

3. These educational opportunities are not a rigid programme to be followed scrupulously. Each opportunity depends upon the abilities of the child and his/her active participation and involvement. Such educational opportunities seek to promote enjoyment whilst learning and should consequently be used in flexible ways.

4. The adults’ role is one of a gentle guide who supports and models learning using positive and encouraging approaches. These experiences provide children with the opportunity to try things out, explore and in the process develop resilience and self-esteem.

5. These learning opportunities have been designed to promote language, amongst other things. One therefore needs to use the language of the story. Even if the child replies or expresses him/her self in another language, acknowledge their understanding but model the reply in the language of the story. Be aware of the language used and word pronunciation, particularly with very young children. Should the child repeatedly express him/herself in one-word or two-word phrases, it is good to acknowledge his/her response and then repeat his/her reply using a correct, full sentence.

6. Children enjoy listening to the same story and may request repeating the same activity. This helps them practise and elaborate their understanding in the process. Although adults might find it annoying to repeat, kindly make sure that you always take the time to respond to the children’s requests. Consolidate their learning and if possible, extend their thinking through open ended questions, by gradually giving less support or by making the same experience more challenging.