

Introduction

Sisters and brothers are the truest, purest forms of love, family and friendship, knowing when to hold you and when to challenge you, but always being a part of you.

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Siblings are blessings. They are one of the best gifts we can give to our children.

I have three children and one of my biggest wishes, and probably yours too, is for our children to have many wonderful memories of growing up together.

In 2014, I started doing learning activities with my son Zachary, who is my eldest child, to nurture his love of learning and to spend quality time together. While these reasons still motivate me to organise activities for my children, our activity time took on a new focus when his little sisters, Riley and Abby, came along. Through learning and playing together, my children and I build strong connections with each other. And, they nurture healthy sibling relationships with each other.

With siblings in the picture, the way we did activities changed completely. Since they are of different ages, they have vastly different abilities and learning needs. As a mother of three young children, I am also more time-strapped than ever. These new challenges did not deter me from putting together activities for my children. On the contrary, I became motivated to create multi-age activities that engaged all my children and required as little preparation time as possible.

Through numerous conversations with other moms, I quickly realized that there are many like me out there who are looking for simple fun activities for siblings. I am passionate about helping fellow busy parents raise happy learning siblings, and that is how this book came to be.

How to Use this Book

In this book, you will find 50 tried and tested, easy and fun activities, all of which have been approved by my in-house activity testers. Every activity is designed for siblings to have fun at home and uses mostly common household items or craft materials. There are step-by-step instructions, vivid photographs, and ideas to adapt the activity for older or younger siblings.

The 50 activities are grouped under five main learning areas:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Discovery of the World
- Motor Skills
- Sensory Play, Arts and Crafts

Every activity comes with ideas on how to adapt the set-up or materials for three age groups:

- Toddlers (2 to 3 years old),
- Preschoolers (3 to 6 years old), and
- School-aged Kids (6 to 9 years old)

While I give recommended ages throughout the book, feel free to pick what's most suitable for your children's skill levels and interests. You know your children best.

This book is designed to get your children (and you!) started on learning and playing together. Flip through this book and choose your next family activity within these pages!

I hope these activities will give your children countless hours of engaging fun and beautiful childhood memories with their siblings.

