

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Topic 4 of *Open Day 1 Home Connection*. We hope you enjoyed working with your child on Topic 3.

Topic 4 is called **Time to Have Fun!** However, it is about much more than just having fun. Playtime is a crucial part of your child's emotional, social and physical development. Play can stimulate your child's imagination, encourage creativity and teach him or her to share and take turns or be a leader. In this topic, your child will learn to talk about his or her favourite clothes and leisure activities, as well as things he or she can see in a park. The **Topic Preview Activity** is a great opportunity for you to show your child that you are interested in what he or she is learning in the English class. Our **Animal Activities** continue the *Time to Have Fun!* theme by looking at the plants that bees like to visit to collect pollen. Did you know that honeybees can't see the colour red and that their favourite colour is blue? Honeybees love plants like lavender and rosemary.

The **Mindfulness** section in this topic focuses on mindful seeing. Mindful seeing encourages your child to be more attentive to his or her surroundings and to feel more connected to the world around him or her. The **Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)** section of this topic works with maths. Maths is very important in our everyday lives, but we all know children can sometimes have negative feelings about it. We will give you some ideas on how to promote positive feelings about maths by doing fun activities with numbers. The **Citizenship** section focuses on another important area: respecting differences. We will do some activities that will help your child develop this value.

This topic recognises the importance of having fun, so in the **Closing Activity**, we will bring all of the elements together by making a family outfit poster as a way of encouraging your child to be attentive, respectful and positive, whilst enjoying themselves at the same time.

You don't have to do the activities all at once. We recommend that you try each of the activities after your child has completed the corresponding sections in their Student's Book or Practice Book. The corresponding Student's Book pages are indicated in each section. We hope you will enjoy taking this active role in your child's learning.



## Topic Preview Activity Student's Book pages 102–103

### Time to Have Fun!

Sharing fun moments with your child helps build a healthy relationship. In this section, we will suggest some ideas for you and your child to start exploring this topic together.

#### ◆ Get Ready

##### Part 1

Look at some pictures of fun clothes or costumes with your child. These could be pictures of superheroes in a comic or from his or her favourite character in a book. Ask: *What are they wearing? Do you like their costumes? Do you like dressing up? What do you like dressing up as?*

##### Part 2

Look in your child's wardrobe and get him or her to say what his or her favourite clothes are. Ask: *When do you like wearing these clothes? Why?* Then ask him or her what clothes he or she would wear to go to the park.

#### ◆ Go to the Park

Have your child choose what to wear and go to the park together. In the park, have your child notice the different ways other children are having fun. Some children like playing on swings and slides, others enjoy feeding ducks while others prefer to run around or climb trees. Encourage your child to join in if appropriate.

## Animal Activity Unit 7 Student's Book pages 106–107

#### ◆ Get Ready

Watch this video of a bee collecting pollen:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0wfUWwijjo>

For the next activity you will need some velcro, aluminium foil, scissors and some paint or coloured pens.

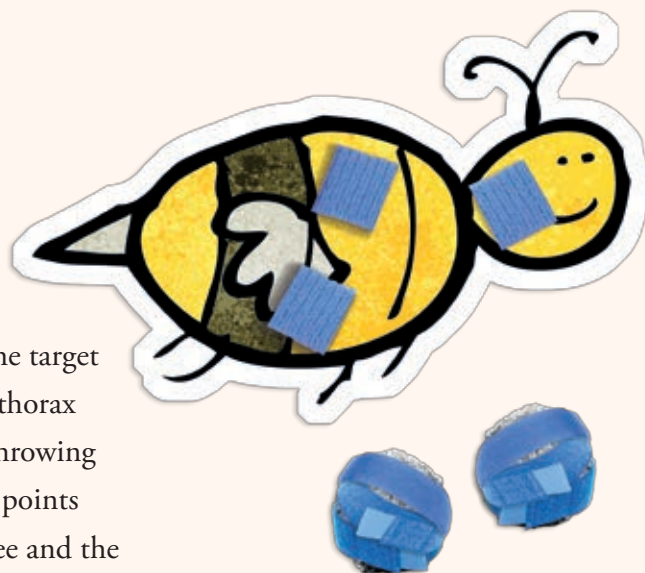
#### ◆ Play Sticky Bees

Play a fun game together called *Sticky Bees*. Watch the video to find out how to prepare to play.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IA9ZG295j4A>

After you finish making the balls, you can make and colour the target in the shape of a bee's body and add velcros to the abdomen, thorax and head. When you play sticky bees, you get one point for throwing the ball on the abdomen, two points for the thorax and three points for the head. This is a great way to remember the parts of a bee and the importance of their body hairs.

Did you know that bees' bodies have three parts? They are called the abdomen, the thorax and the head, and they are all covered in hair. Bees have over 3,000,000 hairs on their tiny bodies. They even have hair on their eyes! Bees use the hairs to collect pollen.



## Mindfulness Student's Book page 110

### ◆ Get Ready

This topic's mindfulness focus is mindful seeing. The idea is for your child to become more aware of the things around him or her. This video shows you one way to practise mindful seeing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgWi8QKsmZY>

### ◆ Take Mindful Walks

You can practise mindful seeing when you are out walking with your child. Ask: *What things and people can you see? Can you see any animals? What colours can you see? What things can you see close and far away?* Or on a rainy day, just ask your child to look out of the window and ask him or her the same questions.

## Animal Activity Unit 8 Student's Book pages 120–121

### ◆ Get Ready

For this activity you will need a pot or container with holes at the bottom, some rocks, potting soil, flower seeds or seedlings and water.

### ◆ Plant a Flower

Why don't you try planting some flowers at home or in a community garden? Watch this video to get some ideas on how to plant flowers in a pot. Remember, bees like flowers such as lavender!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCWLOGE6Nsg>

Remember to water your flowers plants regularly and watch out for bees and other insect visitors!

Did you know a honeybee visits between 50 and 100 flowers during one collection flight from the hive? To help bees find them, plants send out electric signals. When the plant has more nectar, it emits a stronger electric signal. This helps the bee choose the best plants to visit on a busy day.





### ◆ Get Ready

Maths is all around us! You can make numbers fun by using them in your day-to-day life in games and routines with your child. In this way, he or she will grow up loving numbers and being interested in all the things he or she can do with maths! Think of some fun games using numbers to share with your child. Below is an idea.

### ◆ Play *First to 20*

One simple maths game is *First to 20*. On the way to school, ask your child to choose a category. For example, a colour of a bus or a car or someone's jacket. Then count how many examples of each you see. The first person to count twenty is the winner!



## Citizenship Student's Book page 128

### ◆ Get Ready

Respecting differences is a key value in a child's development. We need to make sure children understand that we are all different individuals who deserve the same respect and treatment. Our children imitate us, so it is important that they see us as accepting and being tolerant of cultural diversity.

### ◆ Encourage Respect of Differences

Here are some things you can do with your child to encourage him or her to respect differences.

If you have different cultural centres in your town, why not visit and find out about different beliefs and customs? Or you could organise a monthly international evening. Choose a country together with your child and prepare food that is typical from that country, for example pizza or pasta from Italy or crêpes from France. Other ideas are listening to music from different parts of the world with your child or giving a cross-cultural birthday party where you make birthday treats from a different country, play music from there, and get children to wear traditional costumes.



## A Family Outfit Poster

A family outfit poster is a way for your child to show how he or she is different and similar to other members of the family. A good way to start is to find photos of people in your family dressed in different outfits. Talk about the way your child expresses his or her creativity through the clothes he or she chooses.

### ◆ Get Ready

For this activity you will need a pencil, crayons or coloured pencils and poster paper or just a large piece of paper. To add more creativity, you could also use different materials such as different textures of fabric for your child to stick on the outfits that they will draw. For that, you will also need scissors and glue.

### ◆ Make a Family Outfit Poster

To make the poster, ask your child to draw each member of your family in his or her favourite clothes. You could even add little speech bubbles explaining what each person is wearing and why. Help your child make the poster as colourful as possible. Then organise a family “My Favourite Outfit Party” where family members comment on and discuss the poster you and your child made. Finally, congratulate each other on your great work! Remember to show your love and appreciation.

