## WE'VE GOT MAIL!

Parents share tips to help children explore and make sense of the world.

Learning can take place anywhere and at any time, be it in the classroom, just a few steps beyond (like in the community garden) or miles away. All it takes is for the child and the adult, such as a parent or grandparent, to have the right attitude and mindset. Adults should ask the right questions to facilitate children's critical thinking and inquiry. This may require explicit, adult-directed instruction and task repetition at first. But over time, children will learn to ask critical questions that allow for the acquisition of knowledge and the understanding of concepts.



CLAIR CHUA, mother of a boy, aged 22 months



We make it a point to bring our children to explore different places and embrace nature every weekend. They tell us what they observe, and we talk about our experiences before bedtime. Children are naturally curious, and we want them to remain inquisitive. They mingle with our neighbours of different races, which promotes their awareness and understanding of our multi-cultural society. For example, they learned from the Indian family living above us that it is a religious practice to ring a bell at 6pm every day.

**DEBORAH TAN**, mother of three, aged 2½, 1½ and 3 months

To get our daughter to explore new things, we as parents need to be open to doing things that we ourselves may not have done when we were young. On windy days, we go kite-flying. Recently, we took her to the beach and played in the sea together. We give her a choice, such as whether to ride her scooter, wagon or balance bike. By allowing her to make her own decisions, she will feel empowered to explore and learn about the world around her.

**NERWANY ROSLAN**, mother of a girl, aged 19 months



alongside your child



We showed you how to make a shadow puppet theatre in the Apr–Jun 2021 issue. We hope it made storytelling more fun!



TAN KAI JIE, 3



SANVI SHARATH, 5



ELIJAH AND NOAH WONG, 6 and 4



We have three \$30 UNIQGIFT vouchers to give away to the best letters!

## HELP CHILDREN EMBRACE DIFFERENCES

Parents, share with us examples of how you encourage your child to embrace differences through their interactions with others. Attach a photo with your anecdote and your submission may appear in the next issue of *Beanstalk*!

Send your story to beanstalk@mediacorp.com.sg with your name and contact details.