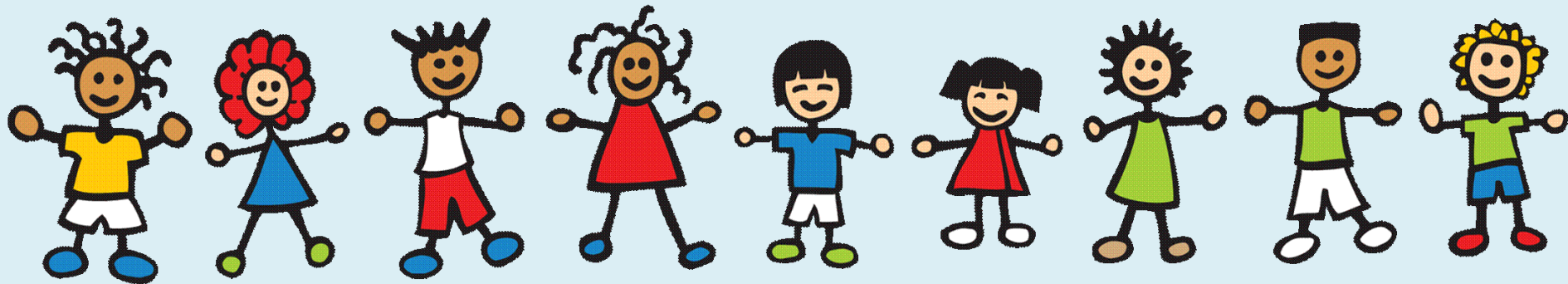


Making a great start...

Supporting our children in their transition into school



How can we help our children to become ready for school?

Talking and listening with your child

Playing with friends, learning to share and get along

Supporting physical development through music, movement and play

Understanding rules and routines

Reading/sharing books with your child every day

Teaching songs and nursery rhymes

Painting, mark making, drawing and making

Playing with letters and numbers

Visiting the library

Taking children on visits in your local area



Personal, Social and Emotional skills

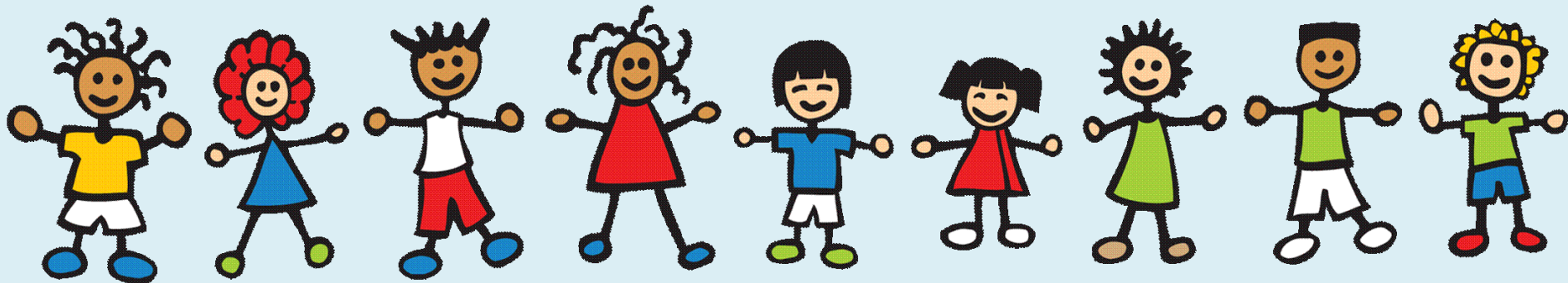
Starting the process of successful PSED is essential for young children in all aspects of their lives.

It will help them to:

- relate well to other children and adults
- make friends and get on with others
- feel secure and valued
- explore and learn confidently and ultimately to feel good about themselves

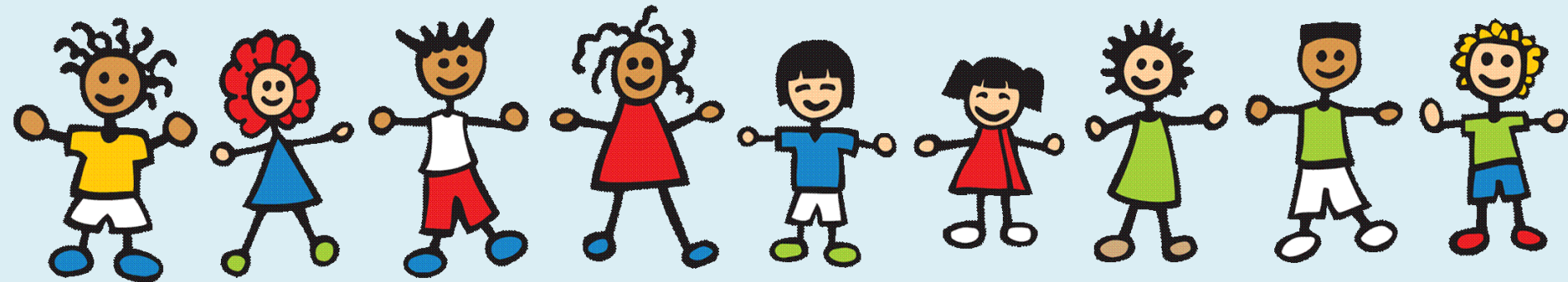
Speak to your children in full sentences (away from screens!) and leave time for them to reply. Don't speak for them, ask open questions

Turn taking in conversation and games



Playing together

- Children of all ages learn through play
- It is a way of them making sense of the world around them, a way to experiment, learn to take risks, help form friendships
- Play helps children to develop imagination and creative abilities
- Being 'silly' together, laughing and sharing happy times are a great way to relax and keep relationships healthy
- It's also good for your children to see you having fun and enjoying hobbies and leisure time too
- The more friends the better- want the children to be as social as possible



Independence - you can do it!

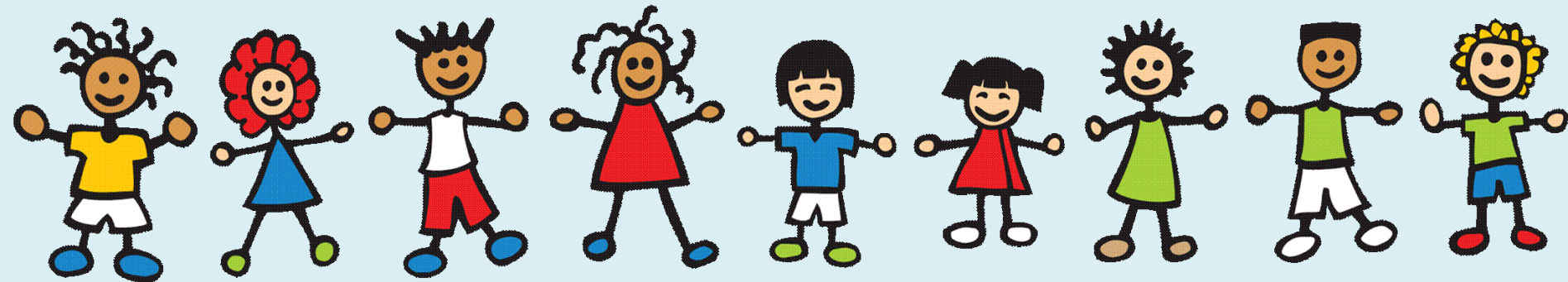
Children need to be able to develop self care skills for school and their own self-esteem. Help your child to have a 'can do' independent attitude to the following:

- Toilet and wiping
- Hand washing
- Tissues
- Food
- Dressing and undressing
- Shoes
- Putting on coat



Physical development

- Encourage your child to participate in activities such as building, drawing, threading beads, playing with water, malleable materials and construction.
- Climbing, jumping, throwing, catching, bike riding, scooters etc
- Managing risks is a part of physical development



Reading

- Sit close together when sharing a book and encourage your child to hold the book themselves and/or turn the pages
- Sharing books isn't just about the words - point to the pictures and relate them to something your child knows
- Look for print in the environment
- Can they recognise their name?
- And lastly - make it fun! It doesn't matter how you read with a child, as long as you both enjoy the time together!
- You can never read the same book too many times!



Writing

- Children need to develop their motor skills in order to be able to mark-make effectively
- Give your child lots of opportunities to practise making big movements (gross motor skills), for example by climbing, crawling, dancing, throwing and catching balls or carrying objects
- In the beginning, mark making is more about motivation than ability and we want to show children that writing is fun!
- Draw, paint, chalk, make marks in sand/mud with sticks
- Encourage the children to write their name on their own work- encourage all mark making and praise



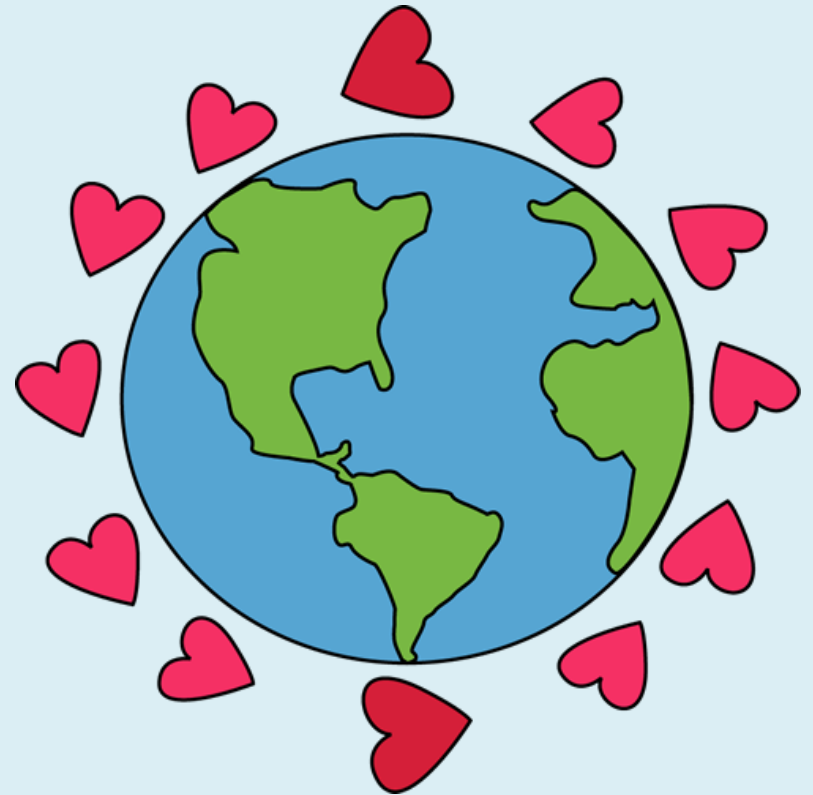
Maths

- Talk about the shapes you can see in the environment
- Look out for numbers in and out of the home
- Counting, adding and subtracting anything and everything - socks, cars, shopping, cutlery, fingers and toes
- Counting songs
- Count with meaning steps, claps, cars etc
- Can we sort our toys/socks/shopping?
- Playing shops, trains, buses, pirates
- Making musical patterns - clap, beat, count
- Board games and dice
- Positional language



Understanding the World

- Answering and encouraging questions -
What if...? Why do you think...? How did you...?
- Letting children join in with everyday activities -
washing up, cooking, shopping, helping in the garden...



Expressive arts and design

- Talk with your child about their imaginative play and join in if possible
- Nursery rhymes and listen to a range of music
- Dressing up and imaginary play
- Visit places to inspire ideas - make a sand picture on the beach, collect natural materials in the park and make with them, visit the museum/art gallery to join in with activities or just look together

