

WEEKLY THEME: AROUND TOWN

Developed by Pnina Rappeport

DAY ONE: OUR TOWN

***This unit is aimed for kids between the ages of 2-4. The point of it is to give them a sense of where they live and the conveniences around them. Feel free to pick and choose what to use from this unit, and alter the activities as you feel necessary to suit your children.**

STARTER

Welcome to the 'Around Town' week! This week we will be exploring all our favourite spots around town and do fun and exciting activities in each place. Today we will be starting with looking at our own town- but hang on a second, lets start from the beginning. Where do we live again? Which country do we live in? This would be a great moment to take out a world map/ google maps or globe and point out your country to your kids. Zoom in and show them your city. What's the name of our city? Who do we know that also lives next to us in our city? What are our favourite places to go to in our city? Today we are going to focus on understanding a little more about what our city has to offer!

CHOOSE 2-3 20-30 MINUTE ACTIVITIES FROM THE OPTIONS BELOW:

SHOEBOX AND MILK CARTON TOWN

Gather all the shoeboxes and empty milk boxes around your house. Cover them in white paper and draw the outlines of buildings, shops and houses in your town on the boxes. You can take a bit of time to colour in the pictures with markers, stick feathers, glitter, cardboard or whatever other arts and crafty type things you have around the house. Bonus if you print photos from google of various attractions in your city and stick them onto the boxes. Make sure to give the building names so you know what's what!

STREET MURAL

Choose your favourite street in your city. Stick butcher paper/ cardboard onto a wall and draw the houses/ shops of the street on the paper. Have your kids colour in the buildings with markers or even paint!

CITY MAP

This activity is aimed to tap into your kids' imagination and creativity. They have the chance to design and build either the city that you live in, or an imaginary one.

1. Start off by giving your kids a big piece of cardboard (think old cereal boxes stuck together, old boxes from a supermarket delivery that have been flattened) or a massive piece of paper (you can stick a few A4 pieces together).
2. Ask your kids to brainstorm the most important places in your city and write them down
3. Now its time to draw the design of your city. Are the streets grid like, or curvy? Are there lots of culdersacks in your neighbourhood?
3. Now that the streets are drawn, its time to get busy with the buildings and details. This would be an awesome time to use any lego people, or figurines you have lying around for props. For the houses, you can build them with lego/ dupplo, make them out of small pieces of cardboard and have the kids colour/ paint them. You can also cut out pictures from magazines and stick them on, or print pictures of your city's famous attractions from google. Its up to your kids and their imagination! If your children decided to invent their city, dont forget to name it and write where its located!

GUESSING GAME

After you make your map, physical city, play a guessing game about where you would go to do specific things. For example, where do we go to buy milk? Where do we go to borrow books? Your kids can point to the buildings that they have drawn and coloured in on the map/ mural/ boxes.

INDOOR ACTIVE

Your Town Comes To Life!

Choose 3-5 attractions in your town and build them using furniture and toys in your living room. Build a street that connects these attractions using a long blanket that you can weave in between the sites. Once finished, have races with your kids to see who can reach a certain attraction first, or simply take a nice stroll through your newly built town and admire the sites/ your handiwork.

OUTDOOR ACTIVE

An Obstacle Course Around Town! Construct an obstacle course around your outdoor area, that includes imaginary buildings and key places in your town. For example, the supermarket, bakery, town hall, cinema, mall etc. Have your kids race through the obstacle by foot or with their scooters/ toy cars. You can choose to time them or simply cheer them on as they go!

SCREEN TIME

Learn a little more about the places we go in our city- Search on YouTube:
Where Are You Going? | Places Song
Kids vocabulary-
Introduction of my town

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DAY TWO: SHOPPING DAY

STARTER:

Its Shopping Day!Thats right! Today we are going to spend the day at our very own mall, in our house! What is your favourite thing to do at the mall? Usually when we go to the mall we have a list of things that need to get done. Sometimes we go buy some new clothes, and sometimes we go to the supermarket. Sometimes we go buy some things for the house, and sometimes we are really lucky and get new toys and games! And in the middle of our really fun outing to the mall, we can get a yummy snack from the food court. There is a lot to see and do at the mall, so let's get started!

CHOOSE 2-3 20-30 MINUTE ACTIVITIES FROM THE OPTIONS BELOW:

CLOTHING BONANZA DRESS UP TIME!

Phase 1: What sorts of dress ups do you have? Well, its time to pull them out! Lay all your fun bits and bobs on the floor in your living room. Describe an item and ask your kid to find it. Have them place it into a clothing store bag, and at the end, don't forget to have them pay! Set up a toy cash register or a shoe box filled with monopoly money and show them how the transaction is done.Phase 2: Let's play dress ups with all the clothes we "bought" today!

WAIT, WE NEED EGGS!

1. Take a coloured peice of paper and help your kids make a shopping list. Make sure to include all their favourite foods (don't forget the chocolate for you!). Put check boxes next to each item. You can either write the item, or draw it and have the kids colour them in.
2. Take all of your kids toy food and set up your lounge room with them to look like a grocery store. If you dont have much toy food, you can also use real food (preferably unopened stuff to avoid unecessary mess). You can take this to the next level by giving the items prices by writing them on stickers or paper.
3. Set up a cash register- either a toy one if you have, or use a shoe box and fill it with monopoly money.
4. Lets play! Give your kids the shopping list and a basket/ box/ toy trolley if you have. Have them find the items and then come to you to pay at the check out.

MALL SCAVENGER HUNT

Tell your kids that your house is now the local mall and that you have a list of things you need to buy. Each time they get a clue they need to go get the item the clue asks for. Once they bring the item to the common area, they get the next clue. Siblings can either do this together or separately as a race.

Hints for the scavenger hunt:

You just went to buy some vegetables for dinner with your dad.

Find a supermarket bag. It's so cold this winter, but I have no jacket!

Go find a jacket. It's time to go to the beach!

We need to buy swimming things!

I really want to learn a musical instrument. Find your favourite one.

We can get our photos taken in those fun booths at the mall! I'm hungry, let's buy a snack!

INDOOR ACTIVE

Put signs around your living room of different types of shops in your mall. They can include clothing shops, food stores, homewares, toy stores etc. Your kids should start in the middle of the room and race to the store you call out.

SCREEN TIME

Search YouTube: Learn Places to Shop | Talking Flashcards

FOOD IDEAS

Whats the most popular restaurant in your mall's food court? Just a guess, but probably- BURGERS! Welcome to our Burger Shop! Prepare all the elements needed for the burgers. You can follow this recipe. Set a bench up in your kitchen or by your table with a cash register. Ask your kids to come up to the bench and take their order Make sure your kids are seated and bring them their burger. Since your are the waiter, feel free to dress up and act the part! Your kids will love it.

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DAY THREE: FOOD DAY

STARTER

Welcome to Food Day!

Let's be honest- we all love a delicious snack here or there. We are very lucky that our town hosts AMAZING restaurants and cafes for us to enjoy!

What are your favourite foods? What are your favourite restaurants around town? Let's investigate!

CHOOSE 2-3 20-30 MINUTE ACTIVITIES FROM THE OPTIONS BELOW:

FANCY RESTAURANT

It's your turn to play chef and waiter, so get dressed up and get acting!

Prepare your kids' favourite meal for lunch or dinner.

Set the table with a white table cloth, your finest dishes (if you dare!) or fancy paper-ware. You can light some candles for ambiance but away from the kids.

Welcome your kids to your restaurant.

Seat them and offer them some juice or water as a waiter in a fancy restaurant would. Follow this with taking their order.

Bring them their food and wish them bon appetite. Don't forget to check on them as they eat to ask if they need anything else.

Surprise them with a yummy dessert- on the house!

DIY ICE CREAM STORE

Instead of missing spending hot days at the ice cream store, make one with the kids! It's easier than you think and makes great photos for your insta ;) Check out [Clever Poppy](#) for all the directions. Don't forget to reward your kids with real ice cream after!

PANCAKE PARLOUR

Instead of missing spending hot days at the ice cream store, make one with the kids! It's easier than you think and makes great photos for your insta ;) Check out [Clever Poppy](#) for all the directions. Don't forget to reward your kids with real ice cream after!

SOCIAL

Speak to your best friends and get them to join you in making your favourite food from your favourite restaurant. After you have prepared your favourite food give each other a call on zoom and have the kids enjoy the food together!

SCREEN TIME

Search on YouTube:

Do You Like Broccoli Ice Cream? | Super Simple Songs

Do You Like Pickle Pudding? + More | Kids Songs | Super Simple Songs

Learn Food Vocabulary | Talking Flashcards

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DAY FOUR: ENTERTAINMENT DAY

STARTER

Today we are going to walk around our (virtual) town and visit different places of entertainment! What do you love to do to keep entertained? Is it watching a movie or TV? Is it playing sport, or jamming to music? Let's check out the places where we can do these awesome activities in our town!

CHOOSE 2-3 20-30 MINUTE ACTIVITIES FROM THE OPTIONS BELOW:

MOONLIGHT CINEMA

Sometimes we are lucky enough to go see a movie- OUTSIDE!

Choose your kids' favourite movie and set it up facing outside (or outside if you can). Make sure to make an abundance of popcorn and yummy snacks. If you have an outdoor space, set up either a tent, or bean bags, mats, blankets, pillows or small chairs on the ground facing the TV. If you don't have an outdoor space, you can also set up either a tent or blankets, pillows etc in your lounge room. Snuggle together in your PJs and watch!

HAND PRINT MOVIE STARS

We are going to the cinema! What is your favourite movie? Who is your favourite character?

Take paint and smear it all over your kid's hand. Have them press their hand down on a blank piece of paper.

Once the handprint is dry decorate and draw on the print to form your favourite movie character. You can even continue until eventually you have made all the characters!

SPORTS HEROES

What sport do you love? Is it soccer, football, hockey, cricket, rugby, tennis or swimming? Where is your favourite sport played in your town?

Choose your favourite sport and get dressed up in your sporting gear just like your favourite sporting hero! If you have an outdoor space, go outside and pretend to be your favourite player as you play the game. Mum and Dad should be on the sidelines commentating (don't forget to keep it entertaining!). Whip out a blackboard and record the scores as the game goes on to see who wins!

ROCKING AT A CONCERT

We are going to a concert at our local arena!

Choose your favourite songs and take out your instruments. Play your songs on YouTube and jam along with the music! Make sure to sing and dance! If you don't have musical instruments, you can use an old tin box (think baby formula boxes) as a drum, and for a guitar, put about 5 rubber bands over an open tupperware. For a microphone- cover an empty toilet roll with foil!

SOCIAL

Go on zoom with your friends, and choose your favourite kids band. Stream their music videos and share your screen so you, your kids and your friends can sing and dance together at your virtual concert!

SCREEN TIME

Search on YouTube:

The Wiggles

Baby Shark

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DAY FIVE: LEARNING DAY

STARTER

Every day is learning day, but today we are going to learn about the different places around our town that we can go to learn!

Start off by naming some places that allow us to learn and talk about each place. You can even play a guessing game. Include places like: the library, school, kindergarten, museum, art galleries, and any other places that may be unique to your area.

CHOOSE 2-3 20-30 MINUTE ACTIVITIES FROM THE OPTIONS BELOW:

VIRTUAL MUSEUM TOURS

We are very lucky to have access to many of the world's museums- online! Trip Savvy has a list of virtual tours at different museums around that world for your kids. Click here to check them out!

ITS TIME FOR SCHOOOOOOL!

Have your kids prepare a lesson on something they just learnt about/ their favourite book or movie/ their favourite food etc and teach it to you. They can dress up like a teacher, and make sure to supply them with a whiteboard. Don't forget your notebooks and pencils, parents! You are going to need them!

STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY

Prepare as many cushions, beanbags, blankets and sheets as you can on the floor in the living room. Scatter all your children's books on the floor so they can see the selection. Make sure everyone is nice and cozy before beginning to read them their favourite stories. Fun add ons are hot chocolate and healthy treats.

LEARNING AT THE LIBRARY

Let's make our very own library!

To set up the library: Grab as many books as you can (your kids books, your books or both) and arrange them neatly, reminiscent of how they look in the library. Set up on your coffee table a 'checkout' for the librarian. You can include here a toy that can work as a scanner for the books, a few slips of paper and a stamp (whatever you have in the house). In one corner of the room, set up beanbags and cushions for the reading corner.

Welcome to the local library! Meet the librarian (one of your kids, or you) Make sure they are dressed up as a librarian and set up the room to resemble a library. Place all your children's books neatly on the table or floor. Your kids can slowly browse through the book collection before choosing 2 books each. Once they have chosen the books, they need to have them stamped by the librarian. Prepare slips of paper and have the librarian stamp the paper and insert it into the books while telling a due date. Once that's done, your kid can take the books and begin reading them in the reading corner.

SOCIAL

Caribu is an app that allows grandparents to read stories to their grandchildren. Download the app and have your parents/ in laws read stories to your children, in the library you made!