# **PARENTS + NNA** = \*Brighter thinking for early years

## Activity: Teddy bears' picnic

Organise a teddy bears' picnic with your child, creating an imaginative playtime experience. Not only is this a fun activity for you to enjoy together but also a valuable opportunity for your child to learn.

### What you need

- Picnic items such as a blanket, cups, plates. You can either use pretend food or make some food with your child
- Set up the picnic laying out a blanket on the floor or in the garden. Help your child arrange their favourite toys and teddies around the blanket.

### **Activity outline**

- Encourage your child to give out the cups, plates, and food to the toys. Guide them to share the items, for example, "Let's give a cup to Teddy and a plate to Bunny"
- Join in the fun by talking to the toys as if they are real guests. Ask questions like, "Teddy, would you like some tea?" or "Bunny, do you want a sandwich?"
- As your child plays, comment on their actions and describe the items they are using. For instance, "You're giving teddy a cup of tea." This helps expand their vocabulary and understanding of language



• Encourage your child to comment on their play by asking open-ended questions such as, "What does Teddy want to eat?" or "How should we serve the juice?"

#### **More ideas**

- Make invitations to your next picnic and invite a friend or relation
- Play hide and seek with your child's bears and hide them for your child to find.

#### Learning opportunities

- Develop language through talking and learning new words and phrases
- Playing pretend helps develop your child's creativity and imagination as they engage in make-believe
- Sharing and interacting develops important social skills like taking turns, sharing, and expressing needs and desires.

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