

Active learning@Home provides parents and caregivers with easy-to-do CAPS-based activities per Grade to support their children's learning at home.

## Partnering for learning



### Message from the Minister of Basic Education

**Active Learning@Home** is a short series of activities through which we partner with parents and caregivers to support children from Grade R to 9 to continue their learning while the country deals with the COVID-19.

We recognise the importance of parental support in the education of their children and these materials provide parents with ideas, activities and links to resources. The content is based on the Department of Basic Education's CAPS and related Workbooks for Term 2 (April to June).

I urge all parents to make use of these **Active Learning@Home** plans that will be published every weekday for the next 3 weeks. It is developed in such a manner that it is something that you and your child can do together for about an hour a day. It also provides a link to books that are available online at no cost. This is done to support the DBE's **Read to Lead campaign**, and reading is also a healthy way to acquire knowledge and pass time. For every day we also include a playful activity for children which is not only important in learning, but also for them to have some fun. When children play they have fun, but it also helps them to cope with stress during difficult times.

**Active Learning@Home** is a partnership programme between the Department of Basic Education, UNICEF South Africa and the LEGO Foundation. And we look forward to welcoming every parent in the country to become a partner too.

Mrs Angie Motshekga, MP  
Minister of Basic Education

### READING & stories



**A reading nation is a leading nation.** Use every opportunity to let your children read. Reading is relaxing, but also important for the development and expansion of their language skills, concentration, critical thinking skills, to 'exercise' their brains and to discover new information and worlds.

Start reading books with your children when they are very small. The 'roots' of language are developed in your baby's brain long before your baby is able to talk. And, do not stop.

**Tell your stories:** Use this time where we spend more time than usual with our child to share stories about your childhood and family history. Tell a different story every evening. This is a fun way to celebrate your family's heritage and bond as a family.

Here are a few website where you can download books for FREE for your children:

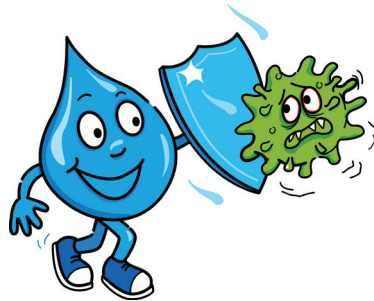
**BOOKDASH:** <https://bookdash.datafree.co/books>

**Nal'ibali:** <https://nalibali.org/story-resources>

**African Storybooks:** [www.africanstorybook.org/](http://www.africanstorybook.org/)

Visit the **Department of Basic Education's website** ([www.education.gov.za](http://www.education.gov.za)) for more websites where books can be downloaded.

The first **Active learning@Home** guides for Grades R to 9 will be available by 13 April 2020 on website and social media pages.



### HEALTHY habits

This is good time re-enforce the importance of healthy habits as a 'family project.

Teach and remind yourselves (adults and children) to wash your hands often with soap and clean water for **20 seconds**. It is the best way to prevent the spread of germs and viruses.

The easiest way to know how long **20 seconds** are, is to sing 'happy birthday' two times or to sing the first verse of our national anthem, *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika*.

### ABOUT

#### Active learning@Home

The **Active Learning@Home** series assists to keep children learning and developing with the support of parents in a fun, helpful and convenient manner, making use of objects around the house.

**Daily learning activities** for each Grade from **Grades R to 9** will be provided to parents on a one-page guide. There are two main activities – one focusing on language and the other on mathematics – for parents to guide their child's learning an engaging and fun way. This will help to assist the continuous learning of your child while at home.

It also provides information from **FREE online Applications** that are recognized by the Department of Basic Education and are also linked to their curriculum. These include **2Enable** that provides support materials in all languages for a number of Grades. Register here: <https://www.2enable.org/>. Also visit the **Department of Basic Education's Cloud** at <https://dbeccloud.org.za/>.

There is also a special messaging for parents every day and a link to a free book of the day. **Reading every day is important.**

**Play** is not only important for children's learning and development, but is also a great way to have fun and to deal with stress. Every day there will be a fun play activity to do with your children.

**Healthy habits** are important all the time, but especially during this time of the COVID-19 response. Every day Active learning@Home provides a helpful hint for healthy habits.

**Active Learning@Home** is an easy and fun way for every parent in the country to be a partner to ensure that their children continue to learn.