## Playing is a great learning tool!

Mengle Memorial Library 324 Main Street Brockway, PA 15824 814-265-8245 menglelibrary.org

Library hours are: Monday through Thursday ~ 10-7 Friday and Saturday ~ 10-5 (Summer Saturday hours ~ 10-2)

Play is important for your child. It helps them emotionally and developmentally. Play helps children learn to deal with the world around them.

Stop into the library any time and check out some of the ways we can help your child play. The Mengle Memorial Library has received grant funding to become a Family Place Library! This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum & Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, & the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Tom Corbett, Governor.

## Play is Learning







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## YOUNG CHILDREN AND PLAY

What is play? Play is any fun activity that children choose to do on their own. It is different from organized play where the child has to follow a strict set of rules and regulations. Children need lots of free time for unstructured play.

Play develops all the following skills:

Language skills: By reciting rhymes, playing name games, or pretend play

Thinking skills: By figuring out how to construct something or put a puzzle together

Fine motor skills: By building with blocks, fitting puzzle pieces into place

Gross motor skills: By playing ball, jumping rope, running, or riding a bike

Creativity: By making up stories, putting on puppet shows, playing dress up

Social skills: By taking turns and following rules of the game, deciding who will do what in a game,

and playing fair

Try to limit obstacles to play such as too many structured activities or screen time. A good balance of these activities will help your child grow up healthy and happy.

