# LIFE SKILLS LEARNING TO LEARN

## EFFECTIVE LEARNING

### LIFE SKILLS

To learn something well, you need to

- use a notebook
- practise
- revise
- try

It's normal to make mistakes when we are doing something new. But we can learn from our mistakes as well.

**1** **Think about how you learn and answer the questions.**

1 How did you learn that 2 x 2 = 4, 2 x 3 = 6, 2 x 4 = 8, etc.?
2 How did you learn to ride a bicycle?
3 How do you learn to remember names and dates in history?

## 2 Match the answers to the questions.

**a** At first, I couldn't do it, but my brother helped me to go along our street every day until one day I could do it by myself.
**b** We said it in class and repeated it lots and lots of times.
**c** I work with a friend and we ask each other questions about the things we learn in class.

1 How did you learn that 2 x 2 = 4, 2 x 3 = 6, 2 x 4 = 8, etc.?

2 How did you learn to ride a bicycle?

3 How do you learn to remember names and dates in history?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 **Match the questions below to one of the life skills ideas.**

try | practise | revise | use a notebook

1 How did you learn that 2 x 2 = 4, 2 x 3 = 6, 2 x 4 = 8, etc.?

2 How did you learn to ride a bicycle?

3 How do you learn to remember names and dates in history?

**3 Did you learn to do these things in the same way? In pairs, discuss how you learn.**




LIVEWORKSHEETS

## 4 Read the text. Circle the language skills it mentions.

**a** reading
**b** listening
**c** speaking
**d** writing




Have you ever thought about how babies learn to speak? For the first months of their lives, they cry and make noises, but, in general, children start forming words when they are about 12 months old. Which are the first words they say? Sometimes, they are the words they hear most often, sometimes the words for things they like. They usually start with words like *mama*, *papa* or *dada*. Some scientists say that sounds like ma, da, pa and ba are the easiest sounds to make, so when parents are very happy because their child is saying *mama*, in fact the baby is just experimenting with making noises!

All children begin learning their language first by listening and then speaking. They start with words for objects,like *car* or *dog*, then verbs for actions, like *drink* or *eat*,slowly adding other kinds of words to make sentences. They can understand more difficult words and sentences, but they can't say them. Some children speak more than others (just like adults!) and some children speak earlier than others, but by practising they all learn in the end.

can't say them. Some children speak more than others (just like adults!) and some children speak earlier than others, but by practising they all learn in the end.

One mother tells the story of her son who didn't speak until he was four years old. Before then, he pointed when he wanted something or just made strange noises. One day, he came into the kitchen for breakfast and said, 'Can I have some chocolate cereal, please?' And then, he never stopped chatting.

So when you start to learn another language, remember that it took years for you to learn yours! If you keep listening and trying hard to speak, you improve, just like in your own language.

## 5 Read the text again. Are the sentences right (✓) or wrong (✗)?

1 Babies make their first sounds when they are about a year old. ____

2 Their first words are often words they have heard a lot. ____

3 Some scientists think that babies aren't thinking about their mother when they say mama. ____

4 Babies use verbs before nouns when they start speaking. ____

5 The boy who didn't speak until he was four didn't make any sounds at all. ____

6 You can learn a new language better if you listen more and talk less. ____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

## 6 Match the highlighted words in the text to the definitions.

adding | chatting | experimenting | forming | practising | trying hard

1 making an effort to do something

2 doing new things to find out something

3 repeating something again and again

4 talking

5 making the shape of something

6 increasing the number of something

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## 7 Listen to Mario talking to his class about learning English. Why did he improve?

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## 8 Listen again and complete the sentences.

an email | beach | drew pictures | online dictionary | sounds | stay with | vocabulary

1 Mario didn't like English at first because he couldn't remember the _____ and had difficulty pronouncing the _____.

2 He met the brothers at the _____.

3 He wrote the words in a book and _____ to show the meaning.

4 After the holiday, he sent his new friends _____.

5 When he needed a new word, he used an _____.

6 He's going to _____ his friends next summer.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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### USEFUL LANGUAGE

- [ ] 1 Hello, my name's Mario.
- [ ] 2 I'm going to talk about ...
- [ ] 3 The first thing I want to tell you about is ...
- [ ] 4 Next,
- [ ] 5 For example,
- [ ] 6 Finally,
- [ ] 7 To sum up,
- [ ] 8 Does anyone have any questions?

**10** **Do you know any people who speak English? Do you try to talk to them in English? In pairs, discuss your experiences.**

## PROJECT

*Sharing resources*

**Funland**

Description: This is a vocabulary game. You have to read definitions or words and match them to the pictures.

Opinion: It's a fun game, but you have to be good at fishing!




- Work in small groups.
- Individually, think of something you read in English that was interesting – a web page, a blog, a game, an article, a book, etc. or something you enjoyed watching in English – a video, a film, a series, a cartoon, an activity from your coursebook, etc.
- In your group, prepare a short information page about each idea.
- Include: the title, what it is, where you can find it (the link to a web page or a video etc.), your opinion, photos, screenshots or drawings.
- Present your idea to the class. Try to use some of the expressions from Exercise 9 and be ready to answer any questions about it.
- Create a class file for everyone and add new pages when you find other interesting things to read or watch in English.

LIVEWORKSHEETS