

## HOW TO ENCOURAGE IMAGINATIVE PLAY

### Doll and teddy play:

- Set up the room with pretend play toys (e.g. teddy bear's picnic: teddy and/or dolly and lots of foods/kitchen utensils).
- Get down to the child's level and start modelling how to play with the toys (e.g. making a cup of tea and giving it to teddy).
  - Have some other toys available so the child can copy if they want too!
- Involve a toy in everyday activities (e.g. if child is eating, you feed teddy). You might need to show child how to use teddy in this way.
- Join in with his play (e.g. if he's holding teddy, you make teddy drink and make slurping noises).
- Use role play toys – this will give you lots of opportunities to model everyday activities (e.g. pretending to cook).

### Miniature/small world play:

- Play with a real cup then give the child a miniature cup (this may help their understanding).
- Show the child how to use miniature objects with doll and/or teddy e.g. pretend to feed teddy with miniature cup.