Teddy Bear's Picnic

An activity which you could do with your child this week is a Teddy Bear Picnic! There are lots of things which you can involve your child in and follow their interests.

Firstly, include your child when making a list of things you need and the kinds of food you would like to eat on your picnic. They could either do this verbally or if your child wants to, see if they can make marks to represent the list of things that you need. You need to decide with your child how many people are going to this picnic, toys and all, so they will need to count how many plates and cups are needed, as well as making sure you have the correct amount of cutlery and food etc.

Next, if you need to go to the shops to get some or all of your items, let your child accompany you. Talk to them throughout the trip about the sights and sounds you encounter. You could focus in one area, such as the **numbers** you see, or the **colours** that you find. You can also **compare** the size of packets, and ask them to identify which one is bigger/smaller. You can also **discuss** the different foods that you are going to use at the picnic, such as whether the food is savoury or sweet, hot or cold, and hard of soft.

Back home, your child can **help you prepare** the food that you have chosen for the picnic. See if they can help you prepare the sandwiches, for example by spreading the butter and topping onto the bread. You can also help your child to **count** the pieces of fruit or biscuits as you place them into the container or bag. You can **talk** to your child to help them decide where they would like to have the picnic, such as on the beach, the terrace green or even your own garden! You could expand on this by adding a tent (...IF you already have one, please don't buy one especially for this!). If the Great British weather is not on your side, take the picnic inside. Lay your blanket on the floor/grass/beach, add some cushions, etc and make it a very comfortable experience!

During the picnic, let your child use their **imagination**, by helping to give the teddy some food and to also take care of the teddy or toy. To expand on this, you could also take a **book to read** during the picnic. It could be picnic themed, or even a book your child is currently enjoying.

Please let us know where you went for a teddy bear's picnic and let's hope that the weather will be good too!



