Learning through play

Twenty topic plans for shared discovery

Use a game. Start a conversation. Make a connection.

This guide gives you a practical starting point for each Ludimi topic. Choose a few words, explore one available activity together and connect the screen experience to drawing, making or observation.

A flexible sequence

Notice. Start with a picture or familiar object. Invite children to point, name, describe or ask a question.

Explore. Choose one available game activity. Model the first turn, take time to explain choices and revisit useful words.

Connect. Use the off-screen idea to apply the topic in a drawing, model, observation or conversation.

Reflect. Invite a picture, spoken explanation, gesture or short piece of writing that shows what was noticed.

Adapt to your learners

Offer pointing, speech, drawing or writing as different ways to respond. Adjust the number of words and the time spent. Use a familiar language alongside new English vocabulary when helpful. Read instructions together and preview the chosen activity.

The conversation words in this guide are teaching suggestions; they are not a claim about every word available inside a game. This is a starter sequence, not an approved curriculum-alignment or age-placement map. All twenty topic games have public play links.

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Dinosaurs

Look closely at prehistoric animals, fossils and clues to life long ago.



Conversation words

fossil

tail

teeth

claw

plant

discover

Learning aims

- Notice visible body features.
- Compare two prehistoric animals.
- Explain a choice using a picture clue.

Start with a question

Which clues help you describe this animal?

Try it together

1. Choose two prehistoric animals, compare a visible feature, then use a new word in a short description.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Make a paper fossil rubbing with a textured leaf.

Reflect

Which clue helped you most?

Open the game

Space Discovery

Meet planets, moons and the tools we use to explore space.



Conversation words

planet

moon

star

orbit

rocket

telescope

Learning aims

- Identify selected space words.
- Compare planets and observing tools.
- Use a new word in an explanation.

Start with a question

How could you tell a planet and a spacecraft apart?

Try it together

1. Compare a planet, a spacecraft and a telescope, then explain their different roles.
2. Try Sort It. Sort selected examples into planets, spacecraft, or observing equipment and places.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Draw a night-sky observation and add a spoken or written caption.

Reflect

What would you like to observe next?

Open the game

Fish

Explore colourful fish, their body shapes and underwater habitats.



Conversation words

fin

tail

gill

scale

water

habitat

Learning aims

- Describe visible fish features.
- Compare two fish pictures.
- Connect a body feature to a question about habitat.

Start with a question

What do you notice about the fins and tail?

Try it together

1. Use a few fish pictures to describe bodies and habitats, then return to one word in matching or spelling.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Design a paper fish and explain each visible feature.

Reflect

How are your two chosen fish alike?

Open the game

Transport Town

Discover vehicles, the places they travel and ways to travel safely.



Conversation words

vehicle

wheel

road

rail

boat

travel

Learning aims

- Name familiar vehicles.
- Sort examples by land, water or air.
- Explain a travel-safety choice.

Start with a question

Where does this vehicle travel, and what is your clue?

Try it together

1. Begin with two familiar vehicles in Meet the Vehicles, then use Where Does It Go? to explain how they travel.
2. Try Where Does It Go?. Sort vehicles by whether they travel on land, water or in the air.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Make a vehicle sorting mat with land, water and air spaces.

Reflect

What helped you decide where a vehicle belongs?

Open the game

Plants

Discover plant parts and talk about the things living plants need.



Conversation words

seed

root

stem

leaf

flower

grow

Learning aims

- Notice visible plant parts.
- Describe a change in a growing plant.
- Use plant words in a comparison.

Start with a question

Which parts can you see, and which might be hidden?

Try it together

1. Choose a few plant parts, then ask children to explain a choice in Sort It.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Observe a real seedling over several days and draw the changes.

Reflect

What changed between your observations?

Open the game

Weather

Notice the sky, explore weather words and discuss everyday choices.



Conversation words

cloud

rain

sun

wind

temperature

forecast

Learning aims

- Describe an observed weather condition.
- Connect clothing or equipment to conditions.
- Record a simple weather observation.

Start with a question

What evidence can you notice in the sky today?

Try it together

1. Start with today's weather, choose a few related words and explain one choice in a weather question.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Keep a three-day picture weather record.

Reflect

How did the weather affect a choice you made?

Open the game

Camping Club

Explore outdoor equipment and talk about planning a camping trip.



Conversation words

tent

camp

torch

backpack

path

prepare

Learning aims

- Identify useful camping equipment.
- Explain a choice for an outdoor trip.
- Use new words in a preparation plan.

Start with a question

What would you take, and why would it be useful?

Try it together

1. Name a few camping items, then use a Knowledge & Safety question to discuss preparing for an outdoor trip.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Draw a packing list for an imaginary outdoor trip.

Reflect

Which item is most important in your plan, and why?

Open the game

Insects & Bugs

Look closely at minibeasts, their features and the places they live.



Conversation words

insect

wing

antenna

leg

leaf

observe

Learning aims

- Notice visible minibeast features.
- Compare two illustrated examples.
- Explain a grouping using a visible clue.

Start with a question

Which body features are alike, and which are different?

Try it together

1. Compare two minibeasts in Meet the Words and describe the body features children notice.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Draw an observed minibeast without disturbing it or its habitat.

Reflect

Which detail did you notice only after a closer look?

Open the game

Mammals

Compare mammals and explore words for their bodies and habitats.



Conversation words

mammal

fur

paw

hoof

habitat

compare

Learning aims

- Describe selected mammal features.
- Compare two animals using picture evidence.
- Use new vocabulary in a shared explanation.

Start with a question

What helps you tell these mammals apart?

Try it together

1. Compare two mammals, then ask children which word or picture helped them explain a difference.
2. Try Sort It. Sort words by their field-guide roles, such as bodies, places and actions.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Create a two-animal comparison drawing with three noticed details.

Reflect

Which comparison could another person check in the picture?

Open the game

Birds

Explore feathers, beaks and the variety of birds around us.



Conversation words

bird

beak

feather

wing

nest

observe

Learning aims

- Describe a bird from a picture.
- Compare beaks or feathers.
- Use an observation in a short explanation.

Start with a question

What do the beak and feathers help you notice?

Try it together

1. Choose two familiar birds and compare their beaks, feathers or habitats before trying a clue activity.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Observe birds from a distance and make a simple picture record.

Reflect

What would you look for next time?

Open the game

Reptiles & Amphibians

Explore reptiles and amphibians through pictures, words and questions.



Conversation words

reptile

amphibian

skin

scale

pond

habitat

Learning aims

- Notice skin and body features.
- Compare two illustrated animals.
- Ask a question about where an animal lives.

Start with a question

What can you see, and what would you need to find out?

Try it together

1. Compare a reptile and an amphibian, then use a knowledge question to discuss skin, habitats or life cycles.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Create two animal observation cards with a picture and a question.

Reflect

Which part of your description is an observation?

Open the game

Landforms

Explore mountains, rivers and the words we use to describe landscapes.



Conversation words

mountain

valley

river

lake

coast

landscape

Learning aims

- Name selected land and water features.
- Compare two landscapes.
- Use a landform word in a description.

Start with a question

Which land and water features can you find?

Try it together

1. Choose a landform and a water feature, then ask children to describe where each appears on a simple map.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Build a small paper landscape and explain its features.

Reflect

How would you help someone recognise your landscape?

Open the game

Earth Discovery

Explore our planet, its land and water, and everyday ways to care for it.



Conversation words

Earth

continent

ocean

land

water

care

Learning aims

- Identify land and water in a picture.
- Use selected Earth words.
- Explain one practical care-for-Earth choice.

Start with a question

What do you notice about the land and water?

Try it together

1. Connect an Earth word to something children notice nearby, then discuss one way to care for it.
2. Try Sort It. Sort the seven continents and five oceans into their two named groups.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Make a class drawing of a place you want to look after.

Reflect

What is one action you could take in that place?

Open the game

Me, Feelings & Friends

Explore feelings, needs and small acts of friendship.



Conversation words

feeling

friend

listen

help

kind

need

Learning aims

- Recognise different ways feelings can be expressed.
- Practise language for asking for help.
- Discuss a kind response to a shared scenario.

Start with a question

What could someone say or do to help in this situation?

Try it together

1. Choose a familiar feeling or need, read its sentence together and invite children to describe a helpful response.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Draw a helpful response to an imaginary friendship situation.

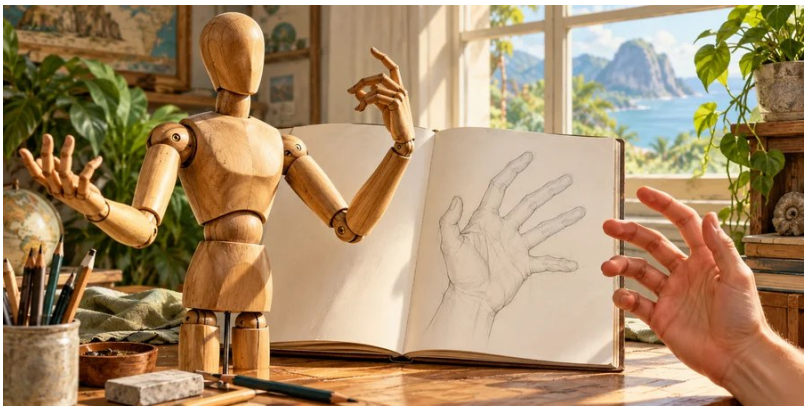
Reflect

Which words could make your response clearer or kinder?

Open the game

Body - Inside & Out

Explore body parts, senses, movement and how we notice the world.



Conversation words

body

joint

muscle

sense

move

notice

Learning aims

- Name selected body parts.
- Connect a body part or sense to an action.
- Describe a movement or observation.

Start with a question

How does this body part help you move or notice things?

Try it together

1. Start with a small body collection, connect a word to an action, then draw and describe it.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Draw a person doing a familiar action and explain what is moving.

Reflect

Which new word helped you describe the action?

Open the game

Food & Health

Explore food words, everyday routines and caring for ourselves.



Conversation words

food

water

meal

wash

routine

choice

Learning aims

- Describe selected foods or care routines.
- Explain an everyday choice.
- Use food or health words in a short plan.

Start with a question

How does this choice connect to an everyday routine?

Try it together

1. Connect a familiar food or personal-care word to an everyday routine, then discuss a reason for that choice.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Draw the steps of a familiar food-preparation or handwashing routine.

Reflect

What makes your sequence easy for someone else to follow?

Open the game

Sports & Movement

Explore movement, equipment and ways to play together fairly.



Conversation words

move

balance

team

turn

rule

practise

Learning aims

- Name selected equipment or movements.
- Explain a simple shared rule.
- Use language for turn-taking and teamwork.

Start with a question

What could help everyone take turns and join in?

Try it together

1. Describe a familiar movement, then discuss one way to take turns or play fairly.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Create a gentle movement game with an agreed rule and an accessible alternative.

Reflect

How did your rule help people play together?

Open the game

Home & Family

Explore homes, everyday spaces and the people who care for us.



Conversation words

home

room

family

care

space

belong

Learning aims

- Name familiar home spaces or objects.
- Describe a connection between spaces.
- Talk respectfully about different home experiences.

Start with a question

How might these spaces or people be connected?

Try it together

1. Name a room or family relationship, then use a reading prompt or the simple floor plan to explain a connection.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Draw a real or imaginary home space and explain how it could be used.

Reflect

What helps make a space welcoming?

Open the game

People & Places

Discover community helpers, workplaces and everyday neighbourhood life.



Conversation words

community

helper

tool

workplace

shop

contribute

Learning aims

- Identify a helper through visible clues.
- Connect a tool to a possible task.
- Describe a way people contribute to a community.

Start with a question

Which tools might this helper use, and why?

Try it together

1. Connect a helper with their tools, then try a short shopping task with the teacher choosing the currency.
2. Try Sort It. Place each word or picture in its named group.
3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Make a community-helper card with a tool and a question.

Reflect

Who else might use the same tool in a different way?

Open the game

Our Town - Places & Directions

Explore places, maps and the language of directions.



Conversation words

place

map

near

between

left

right

Learning aims

- Name selected places.

- Use a position or direction word.

- Explain a simple route on a picture map.

Start with a question

How could you describe the way from one place to another?

Try it together

1. Choose a few familiar places in Meet the Words, then use Town Explorer to describe where they are and how to reach them.

2. Try Sort It. Sort words into the named word groups. If only one group is selected, use Meet the Words or choose All word groups.

3. Pause between turns. Ask children to point to the clue, explain a choice or use one of the conversation words.

Take it off-screen

Draw an imaginary town map and describe a route for a partner.

Reflect

Which direction words helped your partner follow the route?

Open the game