

Q = Main interviewer (Cath)

Q2 = Second interviewer (Beth)

A = Mum (Rosie)

B = Dad (Thomas)

C = Child 1 (Leo, 5 year old boy)

D = Child 2 (Alfie, 3 year old boy)

Trilingual family (English, Spanish, Turkish)

Q There we go, so that's started recording. So thinking about the kind of play that Leo enjoys, what kind of things does he sort of typically engage with, either with friends or with Alfie, or kind of games and play that he likes to do?

A I mean he likes either alone, play alone, making on let me say scenario. Because he is making a scenario and then he is making the toys talking, and it doesn't matter if it is a Lego or something like cars, or even the kitchen things, cooking. So he likes interaction even when he is alone, and talking. And also he likes a lot to play with the friends, not really with the siblings.

Q Oh OK.

A Yeah, because he says that he is ruining the game, or he is disturbing him. But again 50% they are playing calmly and nicely, and then he is also fed up with him. But he's not the same with the friends I mean, more long routines. And he is the one always giving a chance, or if somebody says 'OK let's not play this', and then he says 'OK, what do you want to play?' trying to find a common negotiation place to continue the game. Because for him the most important thing is not to interrupt his game, he would like to continue to a game.

Q So he concentrates quite a lot when he's playing?

A Yes, a lot, ??? I mean, even sometimes not hearing us.

Q Oh really? So he's quite focused?

A Yes, very focused.

Q Can you sort of tell how he's feeling when he's playing those types of games, is he sort of....

A You mean how he is feeling, or.....?

Q Yeah, yeah.

A Calm and happy, and talking slowly like this now. Yeah but I mean I can describe him as calm when he is playing, especially by himself.

Q OK. And when he is playing by himself and you said he sets up sort of scenarios, could you talk a little bit more about what kind of toys does he use to set up the scenarios?

A For example, as I said, if it's Lego it's related to the Lego topic. Because if he's playing some figures from the Lego Arctic and then he's making a mountain with snow, and then putting the different, the alternative things. But again everything is related to that scenario. But if he is playing with Volcano, again the main topic is the volcano and then combining the police or different things and making again a story around the topic.

Q OK.

A So he likes to make it bigger, the story. And the same thing happening with the cars. And also he like a lot to combine not only Lego, so different cars can be inside the Lego play.

Q Oh OK, so is that like the cars from the Disney film cars, is that right?

A Or the normal cars, I mean like the truck or things, but again the small cars I mean.

Q So it's all in proportion.

A Yes, the full proportion is like similar. Or Hot Wheels cars. So he likes to combine this kind of play. But mainly it's more easy for him to write stories when he's playing Lego.

Q So does he sort of tell a story then, is that what you mean, when he's playing?

A Yes. And also at the same time, sometimes before sometimes after, he likes to draw the story, and then he is asking for paper or he is taking by himself the white paper and then he is drawing the story kind of 'this is happening', 'this will happen' or....

Q Oh that's really interesting. So it's kind of interconnected and....

A Yes. I mean going to one level to another level and changing the things, and now returning to the game or the play again.

Q Does he play those kinds of games with Alfie or is this mostly on his own?

A The drawing on his own, but the other one you will see in the GoPro, mainly they were interacting together. So now Alfie is also able to play with the small Lego figures, so they like to interact each other, those figures I mean.

Q Ah, so is it because of Alfie's age now that he can have the smaller figures?

A Yes. I mean no, in fact because of the brother he introduced to small pieces before 3 years old, and repeating the same rules 'don't put it into your mouth, don't put into your.....' and I am saying that unfortunately he was not able to play long enough with the Lego Duplo. So Leo played a lot also with Lego Duplo, but just because of the brother Alfie started to play Lego at the age of 2. So now, also he is able to do most of the pieces because he started to practice with him. So I mean and now he's able to more talk, I can say like this, because he started to talk at the age of 3. Since he is bilingual he was not talking at the age of 2 – few words. So when the communication start more verbally, so now they are able to play more and talk more I mean.

Time 5:30

Q I think you said that they sometimes play in English when they play?

A Yes.

Q Does that tend to be the dominant main language when they're playing, or do they move between languages or.....

A Yes, I mean it's becoming more dominant now because of the school and because of nursery. Because now almost 8 months Alfie is also going to nursery and he is learning English there as well, so now he is able to understand what he is addressing. And the play language English was very simple 'help', 'fire', 'run', so communicating quite well in....not long conversations. So yeah it's deafening sometimes, it's turning to the English, the play language yes.

Q Oh that's really interesting. Do they sort of move between languages when they play?

A Yes, and especially if they have a friend who speaks English, immediately they turn to English. So they are not even addressing to each other English in between if they have a friend who is speaking English in the play.

Q Yeah. So when Leo has friends round what sort of things do they play, if he's with his friends?

A Mainly Lego, because I mean 90/95% of the houses we are visiting, if it is in-house I mean visits, they have Lego and then they are really interested with the Legos which they don't have. So they are choosing 'oh you see he has this truck, you see he has this new space station', and then they are going and checking that Lego pieces. And if we are addressing they also prefer to do crafts, like planes or some ??? I mean cutting, gluing, painting, these kind of things. And also this summer it started some card games, like Uno, or some play again sitting at the table, let's say table games. So when there are 4 or 5 kids also they like to play table games as well.

Q OK. What's kind of the balance of Leo's indoor and outdoor play, does he prefer to play more indoors, or is he more outdoors?

A He prefers to play indoors. But we are forcing him also to be outdoor. But if you are able to take him out he is also very fine out playing. But the difficulty is to convince him 'you need to go out from the house and play'.

Q OK. Why do you think that is?

A I don't know. I mean we are discussing in between mums and then we are saying to each other 'they have everything in the house is a play'. So they don't have time to get bored in the house. So they are quickly changing the topics but they have still enough toys or plays in the house to entertain them. So that's why they are not looking for alternatives, which is outside.

Q So when you do go outside what sort of things does he like to do, or you like to do altogether as a family?

A I mean he likes the parks, or playing football outside. But mainly parks.

Q What is that that he's wearing? Sorry I didn't mean to interrupt but which kit is it?

A Yeah it's the ??? Turkish team Garsi? so he says that he's the fan of the team.

Q So does he watch football matches on the....

A No not really, but I think because of my brother....

Q Oh did he buy him the kit?

A Yeah. Because as soon as he say that he is a fan of football last year, so he started to give him the ??? so now he's like 'I want the socks, I am in the shorts' or the full thing.

Q Oh he wanted the full outfit?

A Yeah.

Q So he plays football outside?

A Yeah, in the park yes. And also he went to the school club, the football club, so that's why I think he'll learn as well.

Q Yeah. So what else does.....

A For example I ask him like this term, the alternative basketball or the craft club. So he chose the craft club, again indoor, no physical activity. So he chooses more indoor activities by himself as well. If you offer him....

Q Sounds like he likes creative play.

A Yes, creative play, yes.

Time 10:00

Q OK. So how has his play sort of developed as time's gone on do you think, can you see a particular direction to it or.....?

A Erm....direction wise, I don't know, I'm not seeing any difference now. But now he is starting to combine the different activities which I said, I mean playing with Lego and then drawing. And then like as I said before, around playing Lego he would like to do a booklet for this one, so he would like to create another ??? interactions book or this kind of thing, or write a story about this. So now he's adding more imaginations to the play. It's related to the play but leaving the Lego and then going to a different, again sitting but not going outside.

Q So thinking about that, does he kind of have any sort of....what toys do you think that he might have around, or he might have around the house, that sort of in your view encourage

this kind of creativity? And I suppose I'm thinking about sort of physical toys but also like apps, computers, things like that, or any tech toys and stuff.

A Yeah, I mean so many things also coming from the things he is watching as well.

Q OK.

A Because he is watching the, I mean the YouTube videos or playing with the apps, so he's seeing the things there and then combining also. So I mean he likes to watch also cartoons, he is choosing what he is going to watch, so we cannot say that 'oh you can watch this now', he is choosing. Because I mean in Netflix or in YouTube or in iBBC Player he is seeing and then he is saying 'no I want this, I want this', 'this is now baby I don't want this'. So sometimes we are suggesting, you say 'this is on YouTube, do you want to watch', and he says 'let's try' and then he's deciding. And also I am hearing is the social influence. So they are talking in the school, so one friend is saying 'I'm watching this' and then he's learning and asking me, and then he would like to watch the same thing to talk about it.

Q So does that go for things like cartoons, or is that things like YouTube as well?

A The cartoons, not the YouTube but the cartoons.

Q Oh OK.

A Like the things also they have books or the comics.

Q What kind of things is he into with the cartoons and the books?

A For example the social influence coming from the friends now is Horrid Henry.

Q Oh Horrid Henry, yes.

A Yes. I am saying 'no' at the moment.

Q Why is that, can I just ask why is that?

A Because everything is horrible with Horrid Henry. Because I know that friends and now they will talk 'it's a horrible rainy day, it's a horrible class, it's a horrible club, it's a horrible friend'.

Q Ah, so the idea of sort of being down on things is getting picked up and....

A Yes, very easily. So until he demands very strongly, I am hesitating to give in? to him. And I don't know, for example he doesn't like the Lego series.

Q He doesn't?

A No. And for Lego he prefers YouTube videos, but the producer is not Lego, the different people.

Q Oh so it's like YouTubers who are...

A Making bricks or explaining a new product or a new team. These ones he prefers.

Q Has he got a favourite YouTuber or a favourite channel?

A No he doesn't have a favourite, he is just checking. Alfie ??? No he is choosing randomly, we are not....how can I say.....a member or following any YouTuber. So when he has the YouTube time, I don't know once a week maybe, or in the TV, but they prefer to have the YouTube in the iPad because then they have the control to choose which video they want. So they are scrolling down and then they prefer to choose by themselves. They don't like, prefer that 'this one, this one'

Q So when he's watching people doing Lego on YouTube does that influence or affect what he does, or Alfie does, with the Lego at all?

A Mainly, in fact in the YouTube ones they choose the Lego things that they are doing according to the instructions. So he is just picking the videos which we don't have it. So he is choosing the teams or the products that we don't have.

Time 15:10

Q Oh OK.

A So he is, I don't know maybe he has an idea about the product, or to see 'what is this'. So he prefer that kind of videos just to see what is the new thing, or what is the product that he doesn't have at home.

Q Oh right, OK. So is it like some sites that do reviews of products?

A Yes. ???saying 'this is missing', 'this is yes'.

Q Oh right, is it like those videos where they unbox things, does he like those?

A Yes, yes.

Q Right OK.

A Or the fast ones, quickly, quickly doing them, and at the end you have something.

Q Oh OK yeah, so he likes watching that, yeah. Does that ever influence the way that he plays at all, watching YouTube, do you think it ever affects or has an influence on how they play?

A I don't know, because those videos they don't have interaction, just the music, so they are not in fact explaining. So the music is starting and then they are just watching. So I don't know. Also the Stop Motion Lego ones sometimes he's watching. Again no interaction, no talking, just music. But now for example nowadays also he is starting to have interest with the music as well, asking me 'some music videos can we watch, can we see'. And sometimes I ask him why he's like that because the movie clips are quite different for him now.

Q OK.

A I mean like because of the cousin he learned Yellow Submarine, the video, so watching that one and then he's confused 'oh what is this, what is that, what is happening there', big imagination he is saying. 'So while they are under water but what's this giant thing doing there?' So now also he is trying to understand these kind of things.

Q Yeah. So how does he watch music videos, is that on the iPad?

A Yeah on the iPad, again asking 'can we listen' or 'can we do'. But most of the time they are playing always there is the music, because I like to listen to music as well. So if it's not the music it's radio or I am listening to podcasts, so they also have to listen because of me.

Q Do you have like an Alexa or anything like that?

A No.

Q Do they ever play with something like Siri or Google Assistant or anything like that?

A Yeah, yeah when they are playing.

Q OK.

A He likes....he knows Siri, so that's why sometimes he's coming and asking silly questions to Siri.

Q Oh what sort of things do they ask?

D ???

Q Hi Alfie, I like your football shirt.

A Who brought me money? I don't know. He's asking the weather sometimes, and sometimes....I don't know. But he says after ??? a silly question I mean. They make fun to ask questions to him, because it my case it's a man.

Q Oh right, so you've got Siri set to man voice?

A Yeah. It seems....I don't know, it seems.....

Q Is that something you changed, or is it something that just happened or...

A I think it just happened, I don't remember that I choosed.

*Speaking in foreign language*

Q So when they're playing with Siri is it with friends or on their own?

A With friends, also on their own. I mean he's coming and asking me, because still he knows that without asking me he can't have my phone and ask it. But still as a rule, as soon as he knows, he is asking me and then I say 'OK go for it'.

Q What sort of things do they ask? Do you know any questions that he might have asked Siri?

A Oh I don't remember. I just remember the weather.

Q Oh they ask about the weather?

A Yes. And I don't remember at all. But next time I can try to also record this.

Q That would be really, really great. So do you know if they sort of chat, or when you say silly questions is it....

Time 20:00

A Yeah they are trying to ch.....no in fact they are not chatting, they are just asking one and then they just want to hear the reply, and someone is answering them. But it's not a continuous chat I mean. So just laughing and then taking another question.

Q OK. So thinking about that, I was just thinking back to when you were saying about sort of setting up scenarios and involving other cars and vehicles and things like that. Do they ever involve technology at all in any of the scenarios that Leo creates, or does he ever take...I think you mentioned last visit taking photographs or films.

A Ah yes, or videos, taking photos or videos yes. Because he said that he would like to take, and then later he would like to look. Or sometimes I am realising with Alfie, because Alfie he doesn't understand the rule that he cannot touch the phone, and he knows that ??? the pink?, because in iPhones with our pink? if you select this you are opening the camera, and he knows this Alfie, so that's why I'm finding some weird photos because he's going and taking what he wants.

Q Oh right.

A But again mainly toys, I mean he is also taking the photos of the toys.

Q So Alfie takes photos of his toys?

A Yes.

Q What sort of things does he take pictures of? What sort of toys does he take the most pictures of?

A Some of them are really blurred what he would like to express. But yeah he is, again for example they are placing the Playmobil also, they are playing a lot nowadays with Playmobil.

Q Oh right, yes.



A So yesterday they had an accident scene, so I mean two patients, so many policemen, and they said there was an accident. So I saw that photo. So they were taking the photos of this – I mean Alfie.

Q So they were taking photos. What happens to the photos?

A I am deleting.

Q You delete them!

A Some of them I'm keeping, but 90% I'm deleting.

Q Will it just sort of fill your phone memory?

A Yeah, memory, and also I'm keeping the nice ones because they would like to see later on and they're asking me.

Q Oh OK. So they come and ask that they want to see certain pictures?

A Yes.

Q So just a couple more questions really because we've been talking about sort of....going back to what you were saying about children having so much kind of like different things in the house to keep them busy.

A Entertained, yeah.

Q Keep them busy. That's a really nice way of putting it. But what types of technology do Leo and Alfie more likely to get sort of bored with, or do they never get bored?

A ??? any technology for you. I mean we didn't buy anything only for them, you mean you are asking this one?

Q When they're playing and their play is involving technology, are there things that they get bored with more quickly than other things? So is there something that will hold their attention for a long time, say for example I don't know a video game or something like that?

A No it is keeping a very long time. I mean the screen? especially if it's a screen? world like iPad or iPhone or computer, they really, really focus on and they don't want to quit on this. In fact I am finding that they are getting kind of aggressive if the time is getting longer.

Q Oh right, OK.

A So it's a personal approach maybe. I'm seeing that if they are staying half an hour on the screen, especially the interactive ones, it's like if it's a play, if it's an app or if it's a game, he's not just watching, at the end when you 'come, it's time to quit' they are not relaxed or calm, they are aggressive. It's not like TV, because in TV they became like very....not putting anything on it, they are just watching, so they are not involved. It's the passive watching. But if it's a play or interactive things with the technology I am feeling that they are getting more

aggressive because they don't want to quit. In fact they are not getting bored. I mean if you keep them 2 hours ??? but in my belief they can still in front of the computer or iPads or iPhone, 2 hours they are not getting bored.

Q Oh right OK. So what sort of things are they playing when they use....what kind of apps are they using?

Time 25:00

A The apps, the games? Like the puzzles, they like to have the puzzles and some drawing things, and some strategy games, they call them strategy games.

Q Oh yes, strategy games yeah.

A And I don't know what can be called ??? plus Cats, there is a webpage they are also playing games. But I don't know what kind of games that one is, but I can show you that webpage and you can decide what kind of games. So this is their favourite things. But it's limited what they introduce them.

Q OK. So what makes you decide that you will introduce something, what features does it have that you think 'I will introduce that'?

A I mean at least I'm trying to look for something that he will benefit, like mathematics or some language wise things, or again some thinking, memory, this kind of thing. So I'm trying to find these kind of things. For example the strategy game, in fact it's a fight, I mean they are trying to destroy towers. But they are always choosing six cards, so he needs to understand which card is the powerful one and he needs to remember. And also he needs to wait because some things are one day later or 8 hours later, so teaching him the time, because he needs to wait, he cannot continue, he needs to stop and wait. These kind of things.

Q OK, so it's teaching him kind of to be patient almost, is that what you sort of mean?

A Yes. Because in their age the patience is the most difficult things that they understand – or to postpone I mean, to say that 'this is tomorrow' or 'this is at the weekend', 'this will be at night'. So these are things that are not easy, the time value, it takes time. So I think this kind of thing is helping them to understand there is a time value and they need to learn.

Q Oh that's really interesting. So do you think there's some kind of a link between sort of like emotions and tech, or sort of learning life skills I suppose?

A Yes. Because I mean with the tech and everything also, same for them and same for us, they are asking everything now, not later 'I want this now, I want to do it now'. So this is the same learning, 'no, this is the eating time', 'no, this is the sleeping time', 'this is the school time'. I mean for example in the morning again he is asking to play more, 'no, it's time to go to school'. So again this is related with the tech, again the tech they would like to have everything now.

Q Do you see that kind of like having an effect, that technology? Do you think or feel that he has kind of, or he and Alfie have developed any kind of skills or knowledge through playing with technology?

A      Yeah. They know the meaning of ‘loading’, they know the meaning that in turn it is not working. So they understand that OK the technology is there but some of the things they provide by as technology also they need to wait, so it’s not happening, or they need to shift to change a different thing. So they are not complaining for example when they are watching something and then the interruption on the TV when TV’s not working in time, it is not working. And then they are able to shift the other game without crying ‘oh it’s happening – OK’.

Q      Oh OK.

A      So we can continue in a different play or different form? I mean.

Q      So it’s like flexibility?

A      Yeah flexibility, also giving the flexibility I can say, yeah.

Q      OK thank you ever so much, I will stop there.