

Q Julia Bishop (researcher)
Q2 Alex Hetherington (researcher)
A Serena (mum)
B Kawsu (dad)
C Mallison (6)
D Essa (4)

Q So I'm with Serena in Family 1. You were just saying something there and I said that would be....oh you said you had been to LEGOLand.

A Oh yes we've been to LEGOLand. Twice.

Q Twice

A Yeah.

Q Oh brilliant. So just tell me a bit about the background. Did they have LEGO since they were quite young your two boys?

A Yeah, from being...I can't actually remember to be honest. As young as they were old enough to build really.

Q As soon as they could put it together.

A Yeah. They've had all the LEGO. They've had the Duplo one.

Q Oh yes, is that the bigger one?

A Yeah. In fact we've got all that under the bed upstairs and it just went on from there and then they've just ended up with the bigger set.

Q I notice that you've got an absolute cupboard full of LEGO. Do they have any particular interests within the LEGO?

A Essa likes anything to do with horses and Mallison likes Minecraft.

C Yeah and science.

Q2 And science.

Q And science. Brilliant. And do they like that they, I mean presumably at first, did you buy the LEGO for them or was it a present from another person? Perhaps can't remember.

A I can't remember to be honest.

Q It just appeared in the house.

A I've always loved LEGO from myself being a child so I think once it got, whoever started the ball rolling with LEGO, it just birthdays and Christmases they just got more and more. And more and then once we moved it to the bigger LEGO Essa continued with the Duplo for a little bit longer and then Mallison's got these ones, but...

Q When you say these ones do you mean like the helicopter and the...

A The what, sorry?

Q The helicopter.

A Yeah.

Q Yeah, when you said 'These ones', I wondered which ones you meant.

A Yeah as in the older age group ones but he...he can follow the, Mallison can follow the instructions but Essa struggles with them a little bit so Essa will either have help from his or he'll do a smaller section or a smaller set kind of thing because there's different...

Q2 Who are you going to draw?

D Me.

Q2 Are you? I see.

D I'm going to draw some black covers.

Q2 Some black covers.

Q OK, so this has all come on a lot since my children were that age. So LEGO Juniors...

A So LEGO Juniors is obviously a smaller age group and so Essa will go for something like this and manage it, sometimes with a little bit of help from the instructions with his brother. But Mallison's probably quite capable of, he'll get a bit frustrated with it but he's quite capable of doing any of the sets really.

C I want to show you my bedroom where it is now.

A Upstairs is a bit of a mess. The bedroom's not a mess but...

Q2 Can we do that a different time because we'll be coming back for another visit.

A Yes, it'll give us chance to sort it out. We've just decorated so...

Q2 In a couple of weeks so when Essa starts school so...

A Is that OK? I don't want to get it all out and try to put it all back.

Q I understand.

Q2 We'll make it after Monday, you'll be going to school first and then we'll be back after that some time.

Q So have you ever been involved in the LEGO with them, showing them what to do and things like that?

A Yeah, definitely. All the family have.

Q Yeah.

A We all sit down with LEGO and do it with them. I don't think my partner would because he's...he's not grown up with LEGO himself so I think he'd probably find it more difficult to follow the instructions maybe, but yeah, he used to get frustrated with it Mallison, but as soon as I've explained you know, following the dots and where you put the pieces he's quite happy to do it himself.

Q So have you shown him by showing him how to interpret the instructions, or have you done it more in terms of just showing him with the bricks or a bit of both?

A No I think it's probably like following the instructions so... So of course telling him to find the right piece and then telling him to count the bricks so far in and figure out where that one goes then.

Q OK. So let me take a photo so that when I hear the recording I'm knowing what we're talking about, if that's all right. So you're showing me the instructions book. That's great.

Q2 So is this you?

C Yeah I'm just waiting for the black.

Q So how to interpret and then...

A Yeah.

Q And how do you find he picks up on sort of that visual instruction like that when you said he'd got on to it very quickly once he did...

A Just explain that again, go on.

Q How quickly do you feel he picks up on that, do you feel once you've shown him...

A Fairly quickly. I think when he first starts it...When he starts doing a set from the start he finds it probably more difficult when there's a lot of pieces in a, you know when it's a smaller set he can quite easily do this without getting too frustrated, but like when this is a big set, so when he's got a lot of pieces to look through and he wants that particular piece and he can't find it he finds that very frustrating. So sometimes I'll help with that. Or if it's a difficult set he will find the pieces and I'll show him where to put them but if it's an easier set he can do it without the...without me saying too much.

Q Yeah. Oh that's really interesting. Does he like request particular ones now or do you find ones that you feel would interest him?

A Well we bought him a...it's a set where it's random pieces so then he has to put it together and he quite likes doing that so he'll make creations through random pieces.

Q Yeah. So what sort of things has he done?

A Mallison? Would you like to go upstairs and fetch that piece of LEGO that you got on your bedroom side that you made?

C Oh yeah.

A Honestly, he's quite creative; he can make anything, but he'll come to me and he'll say 'I've made a speedboat, mummy' and it's just random pieces put together and stuff like that. He's not followed any of the instructions on anything, you know, he's just...and if you ask him about how he's put it together he'll explain 'Well this is for this, this is for this' so he'll tell me what he's made and why.

C It also has a mirror on it and a camera.

A Do you see what I mean? He tells you that it's got a mirror and a camera but it's, it's just something, he's not...

C And you can fit two people in it.

A He's not followed a book, he's just put that together himself.

Q So you've made this up yourself?

C Yeah.

Q Have you just done this recently?

C Yeah.

Q Oh it's fantastic. Look at the propeller at the front and everything. So is it like a little hovercraft type thing? Is that what it is? Or do you have a thought, do you have a name for what it is?

C I don't have a name for it but I think it could be like a drone.

D You could call it a fly fly.

Q Like a drone?

C Yeah.

Q What gave you the idea for this?

C Well, I sort of thought of planes and I thought it would be like a drone, so then I did it like a drone.

Q That's great. Where have you seen a drone?

C Well.

D I've seen one. I've seen one at Our Cow Molly [farm and ice cream parlour].

C I used to watch YouTube, it had different stuff on it and it didn't have the Minecraft stuff what I have on it now and then the other stuff what's on??? and then it just had like different stuff and it had this really cool stuff on. And then I started working with other stuff and then summat came on and then what...

Q And that was something about a drone that you saw?

C Yeah.

Q Yeah. Do you remember what was happening in the YouTube film with the drone? Do you remember what you saw and stuff? Were people flying it? Were they in it or was it like a cartoon or was it a real proper film of a drone or...?

C It was an actual drone, remote control one though.

Q Wow. Have you got a remote control drone?

C No.

Q Do you know we flew a drone over Meadow Banks playground one time?

C No.

Q When I was doing that research we were doing at your school. I'll try and find a film of that and I will show it you. Can you imagine? It showed the whole, it took a film of the whole school. It was really cool.

D You could get one. I'm gonna get one for my birthday.

C I saw a drone in Meadowhall and I went in the shop but I wasn't allowed it.

D I've seen one like, I've seen one in....

Q Have you seen one as well?

A I didn't know that bit about the drone. I just thought it was a hovercraft. I didn't know, we've never, he's never mentioned a drone before so...

Q So has he always been quite creative with the LEGO?

A Yes. With anything. He is quite creative, from him being... back at nursery really.

Q Yes. What sort of things did he used to do from that time? Can you remember any examples?

A Cereal boxes, give him some cereal boxes and some tape and he'll make anything.

Q Yeah. He's a bit of a maker by the sounds of it.

A Yeah, I can't think what I've got but I've probably got some stuff that he's still made. It's a shame, he made a box and he put a....a bottle on top of it and taped it up and I was like saying to him 'Do you we need to take this home? Shall we leave it at nursery?' and he said 'Mummy, it's a camera' and you could see what he meant. It was a camera. It was really cool. I've probably got a picture of it somewhere but he ended up, it didn't, it got broken in the end, but yeah he's just done stuff like that from being about three. Let me just see if I can find it.

Q Oh thank you. That would be, if you could find it and you would be willing to share that with us that would be extremely interesting. It's just those sorts of things that really capture that creativity, as you said.

A I don't where it is. As you know I've got quite a lot of photos...

Q Don't worry. That's fine.

A I'll just have a quick look and see if I can find it.

Q2 What else are you drawing, Essa? Some spikes, what are those?

D It's like corners or summat?

Q2 I see.

D Corner, corner, corner. Like a corner cake? (kick?). Still lime green.

C No.

Q2 Oh dear.

A I think it would probably have been 2016.

Q How old would Mallison have been then?

A Three.

Q Three.

A I think. Let me just...

Q Yeah, yeah. Was this at Meadow Banks Nursery?

A Yeah. But he's...he's done all sorts like that.

Q Do you often take photos of things he's created?

A I try to, yeah. I've probably got most photos. I wouldn't say I've taken like photos of everything he's made because he used to come out of nursery every day with something.

Q Who is that, sorry? Mallison?

A Mallison, yeah. I wish I could find it because it is really really, it is really impressive. I was like looking at it at the time thinking 'Oh God, taking something else home', trying not to say that to him because I didn't want him to be upset about it but then I was thinking 'God knows where I'm going to put that' and he's like 'I made a camera mum' and I was like 'Oh yeah, it is a camera, yeah, I can see what you mean now'.

Q Yeah. Yeah.

A Problem is I can't remember what time of year I took the photo so I'm just randomly looking.

D You press this button and then this cup ...

Q It would be interesting to see, but please don't, you know if you've got five minutes when you can scroll through sometime it would be lovely to see that.

A I will find it. It's in here somewhere because I've definitely got it. Mallison, do you want to find something in the house that you've created and show Julia? You know, something that you've taped together? No you.... Alex wants to see what you're colouring.

C I don't know what I have actually...

Q They could also use the GoPro and go round, have a little tour and see the things that they've created, talk about it and stuff like that.

A Well, because we've just sorted out, we've been sorting stuff out and I've put a lot of stuff under the bed that they've put together, you know all the stuff from last year you know, from school.

Q Will you keep it? Do you keep that?

A I do. I've got a problem with binning stuff to be honest. I wish the camera would have, you know, would have not broken because I would have kept it.

Q Yes, yes. Do you know what prompted them to make the camera?

A No, just did it. Right I think we might be at the right bit now. Right, he erm...I can't really say he just comes home with stuff, he just says he's made this, made that...

Q2 A robot?

C Yeah and he's got a pack.

Q2 Can I take a picture of the robot?

A Are you going to go and find me something that you've made?

C Yeah.

A OK. Go on then. It's so annoying, I can't find it. Maybe I'll have to find it for next time you come because I've got it. I've definitely got it.

Q OK. It might be another ??? OK. Can you remember making that camera at nursery? Mummy was telling me about when you made the camera at nursery.

C Yeah.

Q Do you remember doing that?

C Yeah.

Q I wonder what made you do it. Do you remember now why you thought about making a camera? You just thought it'd be a cool thing to do.

C Yeah.

Q Yeah. What other things do you remember that you've made that were really some of your best things?

C So I have made an Easter bonnet.

A That's a project that he did at school.

Q Oh what's this?

C A volcano.

Q I was going to say is it a volcano, it's absolutely fabulous. How did you make it?

C So basically you get a plastic bottle then you glue all of newspapers down on the bottle and then it sort of makes a volcano and then you paint it then. It's been painted by me.

Q It's the smell of the paint. Essa you're just going to get, let Mallison just show it me?

Q2 I love the smell.

Q Do you like the smell of paint? Do you?

D Even trees make paper.

C Oh I forgot about this.

D I love trees because they make paper for you.

Q Ah yeah they are good from that point of view.

- C I did not know that that was ever there, ever.
- D Let me see, let me see, let me see.
- Q Essa, I think Mallison was showing me that, can you just let him show me that please?
- C I also have, of course I do have a Ninja.
- D Let me see that. Let me see that.
- Q Essa, Essa, I think Mallison is showing me these things. Why don't you fetch me something you'd like to show?
- D And I've got a horsey.
- Q And you've got something to do with horses. What's your one? Oh wow, that's LEGO Junior's Horse and Cart, fantastic. Have you made this one before?
- D Yeah. I made it with my...I made it with my dad.
- Q What do you like about that one?
- D I like it.
- Q2 (to Mallison) What kind of car is it?
- Q An Audi because dad works at Audi.
- D And mine is a Sheffield United one because I...??
- Q OK. So what do you like particularly about this one, Essa, that you're making here?
- D I'm ...
- A It's just stuff like this, like that was like a car that he did.
- Q Oh it's fantastic. Oh that's great, you've been showing me all sorts of these. I'll pop those down. Was this at school as well?
- A That one was at home.
- Q Yes. There's like egg boxes and...
- A Mallison, whose is this one?
- Q Have we got a photo of this wonderful car please? Sorry I don't know which angle is best to take it from.
- Q2 That's OK. I've got some video of it as well.
- Q That's great. Cool. Pop that there. We've been so lucky, I think they've got everything in the house out.

A Essa did a project in the summer that he had to make something for, so Essa did something like that. This is all the stuff that I have to like find somewhere to put in the house. And then this, Essa, do you want to tell Julia what this is?

Q Yeah, tell us a bit about this, so you're busy with the LEGO then?

A And you made this, this is a boat.

Q What's this? A boat and what's this? I'm intrigued.

C A telescope.

Q How could I not realise that?

A So they did like a shark in the park...

C And as well, and Essa's.

Q Oh you've been to somewhere, one of those painting places haven't you? One of those pot places.

A We've got loads of stuff like that.

Q Oh these are wonderful.

D We've done loads of stuff of these and I've done two diggers as well. So Essa's stuff can be on mummy's side.

Q I see.

A They're all over the kitchen.

Q Oh wow. Oh a horse. Let me guess, that's Essa's and is that yours? What is that? I can't see.

A That's a tank, like a...

Q Oh it's two things.

C Army tank. No one can see it but I can see it.

A A ??? dragon.

Q Yeah. So does that...I mean when I see things like that it makes me wonder whether you like films and cartoons and things that have like dinosaurs and things like that.

D I've watched an army film.

Q You've watched an army film.

D And it was about this dog saving everyone.

Q Was it?

C I've made two planes and two diggers when I was littler.

Q Yeah.

C Look I've made this car.

Q I love that...telescope.

C I'll put Essa's stuff this side.

A Stuff like this is stuff that Mallison used to come home with like all the time.

Q Well thank you for showing us so much stuff. It is fascinating.

A He is very good at, like he had a box the other day, a cereal box. He had...Mallison can you put that down a second please. What were the other things that you had and you said you were going to make a jetpack? You had some toilet rolls, a cereal box...

C Yeah, two tapes.

A You know that sellotape where the tape's come off and the rolls that are left? He had two of them and said he was going to make a jetpack with it from the pieces that he had.

Q Oh fantastic.

D Mum made me bin it.

A I had to bin it because at the point that he wanted to keep it we was decorating and I was trying to create space.

D We had way too many ???

A Well we've got so many toys that haven't been opened Mallison than something's got to give and that was one of the things that had to give.

Q I see, yes.

A From them items he saw a jetpack, do you know what I mean?

Q Yes. That's good. I mean do they like, I mean it makes me think about films, and maybe this isn't relevant but I just wanted to ask you whether they watch TV programmes or films and that sort of thing?

A They don't really like films.

Q Oh that's interesting.

A Mallison, when Essa was a baby, I took, he was like a baby in arms and I took him to the cinema to see Paddington Bear and when the bit on the film when they try to catch the

bear came, he started screaming very loudly like to the point where I thought he'd trapped his finger or something so I was fumbling around trying to find out if he'd trapped his finger and then I realised that he was actually crying because the bear was getting hurt. But I didn't realise that it would affect him in that way because at that point he was probably like, he was less than two and he really understood it. And from that bit he's never liked films so he's always said 'I don't want to go to the cinema. I don't want to go. I don't like it'. And he's always put on a bit of a show of not wanting to go which has then affected him and he's not wanted to go.

Q Oh that's interesting. So Essa's been affected by Mallison?

A Mallison's issue with films, yeah. So we've basically...

Q So do you watch, do they have DVDs then? Would you watch them at home rather than go out to the cinema or is it just sort of not really used very much.

A It's not really used very much, no. A lot of the DVDs I have bought over the years and tried to get them to watch them, he really likes Lion King. What's your other favourites Essa?

D Greatest Showman

A The Greatest Showman, yeah.

Q Oh, The Greatest Showman, yes, at Meadow Banks I think one of the teachers did a whole project around The Greatest Showman when I was working there.

A Really? Yeah, he likes The Greatest Showman, he likes Lion King and if I can try and separate them and get him to go and play somewhere else he will watch that without any complaining or anything. Mallison over the last six months has actually got better at watching films and he will now, he will complain about it but he will now actually complain but actually sit and watch it.

Q Yes. That's really interesting.

A But we do go to the cinema. He will complain about it but we do go and when we go he doesn't want to go but when we leave he always likes it. And I'll say 'Do you want to go back again?' and he'll say 'No', I'm like 'But you liked it'.

Q So what films have you seen recently then?

A What have we been to see recently Essa?

D Er....

A Can we think? We saw, what's the pet one? Secret Life of Pets 2?

D Yes.

A We saw that a couple of months ago.

D I loved it when that bunny said 'All them pee-pee friends'.

A You know when you're like watching a film and you're thinking 'Oh no, that's going to come out for the next six months now, what he's just said in that film', so yeah he thought that was hilarious, he really, really liked that. What else have you seen at the cinema, can you think?

D I very loved the pee-pee one.

A Right. OK. Can you think of anything else? Can you think of anything else? Essa, can you think of another film that we've seen at the cinema? Did you go with Nan to see anything?

D Incredibles, ???

A Incredibles, but that was...

D And this boy said 'Are you ?' Yeah The Incredibles. And this boy said 'Are you f? Check it out. Totally awesome.'

A Do you know, whatever you don't want them to say, if they hear it in a film they think that gives them grounds to say it.

Q They sound like they're pretty good mimics actually. Do they do that sort of thing?

A What's that, sorry?

Q They sound like they're very good mimics. Do they pick up lines from films and things?

D 'all the pee-pee friends'.

A Oh yeah. Stop saying that now. Mallison can you put all of that LEGO together before you lose any of the pieces please? Essa, we don't want to hear that again please. Sometimes they talk American as well which, I've heard another mum say that they do. That's, that's Mandika which is...

D My daddy.

A Their dad's from Gambia so they speak...sometimes they speak, they speak his language sometimes.

Q That's fantastic.

A Only the odd words. Not much. Not fluent or anything like that but...

Q No that's amazing. What language did you say?

A It's called Mandinka.

Q Mandinka. And do you speak that as well?

A Not really. I get, I understand some of the words but it is a hard language to speak.

Q Is it?

A Yes. And I don't think daddy is a very good teacher, is he Essa?

D ???

A He finds it very frustrating to repeat over and over again and stuff like that. They understand a bit of it but once he gets going speaking it they can't keep up.

Q Oh. That's really interesting. Does that come out in things like play, with new words would they be playing and saying those words and things like that?

A Yeah. They'll talk and say it to each other, occasionally.

D ???

A What's that mean?

D Love you.

A I love you.

Q Oh. That's lovely. Can you teach me that? What is it?

D ???

Q Na canala

A ???

Q ???

A Means I love you.

Q Oh thank you. That's my first Mandinka I've ever learnt. How exciting.

D Najam? means come here.

A Najam.

Q Najam. Ah, come here, right.

A Yeah. What else can you think of?

C What's that one sounding like in ...

A Soomolay

D Soomolay.

A What's that mean?

C Forgot that one.

A How are you?

Q Ah, that's a very important one, so I can be polite. Soomolay?

A Yeah, but then they're very quick, so I can do a few of them but then I'm lost with what I've just said.

C We've been there before and we went on that big boat, what's it called now?

A The ferry.

C Yeah. We went on this ferry to another island which was a safari place where you go on Safari.

D Yeah and we saw some rhinos and some giraffes.

C Yeah.

D The rhino actually pushed one of the cars.

A It didn't. It didn't.

D I remember when we got stuck in summat.

A No they got stuck. We was watching and you were saying the rhino was going to charge but the rhino was just coming out the water.

D And what did he do? Charge.

A He didn't.

Q That's what you would have liked him to have done.

A It was a proper safari where you drive round in your cars and you're in Africa. And this car had got stuck in the sand but there was a rhino, a huge rhino just in front in the water and so they had to get out the car and they were trying to push the car, but this rhino turned round and was getting out of the water so they were shouting from the other vehicle 'Get out of the way, the rhino's gonna charge', but the rhino didn't charge, it walked off. But it could have been dangerous because it could have charged. But it didn't.

Q Gosh. This is in Gambia?

A It was in Senegal, but near Gambia.

Q Oh nice and was this recently that you went there?

A It was 2017, the end of 2017, so not that long ago.

Q Wow, what an experience.

A Yeah.

Q The boys obviously remember quite a lot about it.

A Oh God, Essa's memory is amazing. He's got the best memory ever. He can remember so much. He reminds me of stuff that I've forgot. Essa, last summer I was telling Mallison that he had to have his stabilisers off to have a go and he wasn't very happy about that he was crying saying he couldn't do it and didn't want to do it.

D Yeah and then I started to try and get on my bike myself and then I could do it.

Q It's amazing isn't it? That moment when you suddenly think 'I can do this without my stabilisers. Yes!'

A Well Essa, I think he was three at the time said 'I'll do it', so Mallison at five didn't want to try and Essa at three was quite happy for having a go without stabilisers and he did it, not for very long but he did do it so that then that then pushed Mallison into wanting to have a go, so Mallison had a go and then he could actually do it so he was then able to do it from then on the road within a couple of weeks. And Essa could still do it, hit and miss, but you didn't like the hills did you? There's been a lot of screaming over the hills.

D Yes.

Q That's Sheffield for you though isn't it?

A Well, it was our hill, which isn't a massive hill but when you're going downhill and you're only little and the bike's probably up here then for him it was quite scary.

Q Yes, of course.

A But when it was flat he could do it fine. But he's OK now aren't you? You've got it now haven't you?

Q Did you ride your bike in the park?

D Yeah.

Q Do you go through the park here or Hillsborough Park?

D Yeah. I'm normally better at the park not at the hill.

Q Yeah because I live right beside Hillsborough Park so all my girls learned to ride their bikes in Hillsborough Park.

A Well that's his favourite place to go.

Q Oh it's a good park.

A Yeah.

Q Yeah.

C I like to go over the bumps and stand up on my bike down there.

Q Oh do you?

C Yeah.

Q And what about you Essa? Which part of the park do you like the best?

D The park...the most ...when I go at Hillsborough Park, well, that's the best place you can learn to ride my bike.

A Where did you get a lot of confidence this summer from riding your bike? Where did we go that you took your bike and you was riding everywhere?

D Center Parcs, Center Parcs

Q Oh fantastic.

A So they went to Center Parcs because it's all reasonably flat and you ride everywhere, you don't drive, he rode the whole weekend didn't you? And he absolutely loved it.

Q Oh did you? And whereabouts, which Center Parcs did you go to?

A Just the one nearest to us at Sherwood.

Q Yes, I haven't been but I know where it is. So I just want to go back to the films conversation for a moment. I was interested in whether they ever go to films that are related to things like LEGO or, because he mentioned like LEGOLand and there is a LEGO movie isn't there...

A We've not seen it, no.

Q No, so they don't necessarily...and what sort of films when Mallison does go now he's getting over his fear a little bit, what sort of things would you say, well and Essa for that matter, what would you say they prefer?

A Mallison, what films do you like the most? Because you tell me you don't like any films but...so at home we watched The Incredibles didn't we the other week and you thought that was really cool didn't you?

Q Do you like animation films or...

C Er, I do like Spiderman, do you know ???

Q Have you seen that one?

A He saw that one at Nannan's house. We didn't see it at the cinema did we?

Q Yeah and do you prefer to watch them here on your TV screen at home or with your Nannan, or do you prefer to go to the cinema to see it?

C I would prefer to see it here.

Q Yeah, yeah, and do you ever like think about films and stuff that you've seen when you're playing on the, you know, with your LEGO or with friends at school or anything like that? Do you ever pretend like you're in a film or anything?

C No.

Q No. That's fine. How about you Essa? Which ones do you, which films are your favourites? Do you like animation, do you like cartoons...do you like action? You mentioned something about a war thing that you'd seen as well.

A That was with Nannan wasn't it?

D Yeah it was about army and this dog saved all these ladies. But there was this green thing that was making stuff that they shooted this yellow thing like that looks a bit like a pencil and...

C Essa I'm making this for you.

D No I don't want it.

A No fighting.

C I'll make it random.

A He's randomly doing it, he doesn't want to follow the instructions. Essa finds it frustrating sometimes with the instructions.

Q Yes. So has he gone for more of a random straightaway than follow the instructions?

A Yeah.

Q That's great.

A Mallison's a bit, you know, he likes to follow the rules I suppose, you know like, he's very regimented in how he does it. If he's putting things in a line, he has to finish what he's doing he doesn't like to stop.

Q So he's like a tidy and neat, kind of methodical...

A Methodical, yes.

Q Yeah that's interesting and Essa's perhaps a more free form.

A So if Mallison's colouring something in and tea's ready he'll be very frustrated if you make him stop doing that before he's finished it, stuff like that.

Q Right you need to get things finished at a certain point.

A Yeah.

Q And you were saying Essa's a bit of a contrast in that respect.

A Essa, he'll...he'll do it like this and he's quite happy, if he follows instructions and he can't do it, he'll have a go, but then sometimes he'll just chuck it and say 'No. I'm not doing it any more'.

Q Yeah.

A Yeah. Whereas Mallison will keep going, but you know he's only four so you know, that's allowed.

Q Yes, of course, different stages. And you were saying that you feel in many ways Mallison has, it sounds like he has quite a big influence on showing him things and...

A Yes he does, he will help him, he will do it for him but Essa sometimes doesn't want that, he wants to be a big boy and do it himself, so sometimes that causes a bit of grief.

Q Sibling stuff isn't it.

A Yeah. I mean they do get on but not every day. You know, they do have their bickering sometimes. It just depends on what mood they're in and stuff I suppose.

Q And it sounds like you really value that creativity. We've talked quite a lot about their creativity today and I just wondered if you had any... in a general way what you felt about the importance and the value of creativity in children's lives.

A Well...

Q2 We might have to wait to get more out because we've already got some out.

D I want to show Alex this is mine what I...

A You can show him but you're not getting anything else out.

Q Yes because we're going to go in a few minutes.

A We don't have much TV on. I don't think we, I wouldn't say the TV's in the background all day or anything like that. That's one thing I think a lot of families do and we don't. I wouldn't say, they do watch a bit of TV but I try and do it when I think we need to calm down, you know like if we're getting a bit too hyper, but if...

D A bit too giddy.

A If I'm honest we don't spend a lot of time in the house. We spend a lot of time at my mum's, we spend a lot of time doing activities, we spend a lot of time out so when we are in the house...

D Mum, he's getting new LEGO.

C This is Minecraft.

A He's not getting new LEGO out. When we are in the house they will go off and play like this and get something out like whatever they fancy at that point.

C But he's tidying it up.

A But Essa is much better at playing with something, Mallison doesn't. He will play with the LEGO but he's much more likely to build a den and pile stuff on top of each other and then get frustrated when it doesn't stay.

Q Oh that's interesting yeah, so it's almost like an engineer.

A He don't play as much like...

C He gets frustrated when people break it.

A Yeah.

Q I think that's understandable. I think I'd get frustrated if I've made something carefully.

A That's lovely what you've made Essa, you've done a good job there. It doesn't matter if it's broke, you can do it again.

Q I'm fascinated by what you're doing with that, you're combining it in a very interesting way.

A But Essa's got a lot of stuff like farms and horses and stuff, he's quite good at going off and just playing very quietly and just playing with that, you know? Whereas Mallison's more, they're just different, different personalities. He likes it more structured so if you gave him a LEGO set with instructions he will sit and do that but if you said to him 'Go and play' he'd be more likely to build something, tie something together, you know...they're just different, different boys.

Q That's fascinating. Now you mentioned at the beginning that you were quite a big fan of LEGO when you were young. I mean are you a maker yourself? Did you like to make things as a child? Did you have a special place for LEGO in your life as it were in your childhood?

A No we definitely did. I've got so many things that I can think of that I've...

C Mummy, can I get a new LEGO? I've tidied up.

A Erm...what some that's already been opened?

C Yeah. I'm going to try and find ...

D Oh I really want to get that motorbike one out ???

A Let me just see if I can find you this what Mallison made. Oh there it is.

Q Actually I think we're probably going to go in a minute and maybe ??? with them, go through ???

A They made that and ???

Q Oh that's lovely, may I see.

D Spiderman!

Q2 I want to teach you how to use something.

A Listen, Alex is talking to you. Just listen to Alex, listen to what he is saying.

Q Oh so this is a lovely photograph of Mallison with the LEGO.

A Yeah he's made a kitchen. So he explained that he'd made, he said that was the sink and that was the kitchen and that was the table and that was the garden and he'd got windows and a door. Oh no, that was the door.

Q So he's very precise it seems in what he, you know for what, he's very clear on what he's got and how he's done it and why he's done it.

A Yeah so he'll just go off and do something like that.

Q Oh that's very interesting. Would you say you were like that? Would you say you have an affinity with him in that way?

A Yeah, I mean I loved LEGO when I was a kid, I loved to make, like doing stuff like that, going off and...

Q And did any of your experiences, the way you used LEGO and how other folks around you in the family helped you, or didn't help you, you were left on your own with it, did that influence you in the way that you were with Mallison?

A I think that my, we didn't have much technology growing up, so I think that influences how much they get if you know what you mean. So I think with, I remember going out, I don't like them going out on the streets but you know like we used to go out and play and that was part of growing up, whereas I don't think it's safe to do that nowadays in that way.

Q Are you worried about traffic or strangers or...

A Yeah both, so now I do encourage them to actually go off and play, as in play in the garden, play in the house, but not with the TV and not with, you know being on the, you know, iPads or whatever. They have limited time.

Q Yes, ooh I'll ask you a bit about that another time.