

Q Julia Bishop (researcher)  
Q2 Alex Hetherington (researcher)  
A Lindsay (mum)  
C Noah (9)  
D Jacqueline (5)

[Jacqueline is playing with the Classic LEGO set that Julia and Alex have brought, making a new toy. Noah is upstairs with Alex doing the play tour]

D ....making any wall.

A A will?

D Wall.

A Oh wall?

D Let's find some flowers.

A A wall of flowers.

D No, these are the cups.

A A flower wall?

D These are the cups with their flower lids on.

A Oh, they're cute.

Q I mean I was looking back over what we were talking about before and I notice how really you interact with the children both a lot, and it's, I think, part of a sort of deliberate strategy of yours, isn't it, would you say? Is it something you think about doing?

A Don't know, I just.....

Q When they're playing you ask a lot of questions about how they play and you take an interest ??? I think.

A Yeah. Well I find it quite amusing some of the stuff they come out with, I'm like 'why is that' and they just babble on. I find it quite funny. But I don't really....I quite like the Nintendo and I've never been....I think Noah's....

Q Are you talking about the Switch?

A The Switch, yeah.

D Look we have to pick colours.

A Oh that's good, I like that. I think he's converted me, I quite like it, I've not been on it and I don't intend to go on it. But from afar, I like it.

Q Yeah. I wondered, you said that tech play doesn't....

D Do we have people?

Q No there's no people, very sorry. I think you said that tech play, the children didn't sort of choose it necessarily, they would tend to choose their toys to play with, and I wondered if that had altered?

A It has altered since he's had that but it's still....because obviously now he's got a choice, you know like this new thing where he's....the whole hype, and also it's a different type of toy, imaginary. But yeah no he loves it. But he still plays with his toys.

Q So there's still you feel a happy balance between the things that he does.

A Yeah.

Q So you're not worried about it?

A Oh no, I wasn't worried about it because we're not....you know they're not like really like couch potatoes or so to speak, or you know in front of a screen all the time. They're quite active in how they play, you know with the stuff coming down and in that room, and then that room and it's everywhere.

Q Yeah they've stuff about the house, you were saying last week, yeah.

A So I've never been worried anyway. So that never worried me about introducing it in the first place, it was just like they don't appeal to me really. But it was something obviously he wanted, and now he's got. But he's really good.

D I want to attach the LEGO to this.

A Oh, is there a door frame somewhere? There might be a door frame, have a look.

D There's none.

A Have you looked in all the boxes?

D I think I can play it through there, through them.

A Oh let's have a look. Well that's a window.

D That's another window.

A OK. Right, have a look in any of the other boxes, it might be a different colour, babe. Oh here we go. [Looking at the box] Oh it's brown.

D What?

A It's brown.

D Brown.

A That's good.

D Let's see, let's see.

A It's brown. There's me trying to think I could find ??? That's really clever. Ooh I like it. So if you need a certain bit, it helps with the colour.

Q So do you think the Switch has impacted on Jacqueline at all?

A She enjoys watching him, she's not really gone on it.

D Found it, found it.

A Well done. But yeah she's not really....and she's not really asked to go on it either. But she enjoys watching him and she like budges up, sits on him.

Q Interesting. Is that when he's playing Minecraft?

A Yeah, mainly Minecraft. But she has gone on it when she's....

D There look, there.

A Oh that's good, I like it.

D You can see it poking through there.

A OK. You've played....what game have you played Jacqueline on the Nintendo? The racing one wasn't it?

D Yeah, and that LEGO one, and that's it.

A Oh, have you done Minecraft as well?

D No.

A What LEGO one then? Oh yeah, Jurassic Park LEGO.

D Yeah.

A Have you been on that?

D Yeah.

A Oh. What on the TV or the little screen?

D The big.

A Oh I didn't know. Well, it was a two player?

D Yeah.

Q Do you ask Noah questions when he's just playing on the Minecraft, or do you just watch him?

A How do you learn?

D I copy Noah.

A Oh do you?

D Yeah.

A And do you like copying Noah? Does he get things right all the time?

D Yeah.

A All the time?

Q She's nodding. Do you see any tie-up between the LEGO and the Minecraft, can you see a sort of....you know.

A Oh with the building and the....yeah, and like the imagination of you're....well you're basically making like a reality, aren't you, as well, objects, bricks.

Q Yeah, on Minecraft?

A Well, on both, aren't they, yes. So it's all boxes.

Q So you see them as related.

A Yeah. But Noah loves it, he was on it yesterday showing me....

D Mummy a pattern, I'm doing a pattern.

A Ooh I like that.

Q How often does he play on it?

A Probably, recently, every day.

Q Yeah, for how long?

A An hour, an hour and a half.

Q Yes. Do you have to prise him off it as it were, or do you tend to leave him to...

A He sort of does it, but I'm sort of like 'right come on then put it on' and he just sticks it on the top.

Q Do you ever use it as a reward or anything like that, or do you let him select it when he wants?

A I've not done that yet because he's not really been...well I've not used it as a punishment or reward to sort of response to go on it. I allow him to go on it. But I've not used it as a punishment either because he's not been naughty.

Q Do you do that with tech at all, do you do that with any other things like the tablet or....even TV and things like that, do you use it as part of a system of rewards or punishment?

A I have the telly. Well rewards I don't because they always have access to it, but I have done it as punishment in terms of if they are squabbling then I tell him to go upstairs and watch his programme upstairs, because he has a telly, and she's watching her programme downstairs. But I sort of do it that way, that he is upstairs because he has caused the argument of whatever – or even sometimes if she causes it I sort of tell her off and then I do ask him to go upstairs if she's caused the argument, I'll say 'you can go upstairs, watch it on yours' because then she's down here. But yeah so I sort of do that. But I don't really punish with toys or stuff, they're not really naughty.

D Got some ???

Q Oh what have you got there?

D Gold. Peppa Pig.

A Oh, gold. What are they though? Gold....

D A drink.

A A gold....oh gold flasks.

D And we have another one, that's one that like...

A What are you using them for?

D For drinks.

A Oh OK.

D They're flower things.

A What are you building?

D A house.

A You're building a house? What type of house though because it's got to be like a new type of house never built before.

D Never built before?

A Like a modern future house.

Q You can use your imagination, how would it be, you know.

D It's a nice house.

A Oh it's a nice house. Of course.

Q Do they....we've not really mentioned or touched on whether they use the tablet or any other technology for school homework or anything like that.

A No, not really, they don't. They play with my mobile phone if we're looking stuff up. Not really the tablet. I sort of tend to sort of take over on that if, you know, countries or flags or things like that.

Q On the homework side, you mean, yes.

A I tend to do that. And then not her but Noah will like look at the pictures for the information and then we're sort of doing the work via the ??? work book.

Q Yes. How do you do it with him on the phone to....if you could give me an example of stuff you've done.

A Well just look up....like for instance like countries, what type of food they're into and stuff like that, we just Google that country.

Q You Google it?

A Yeah I do all that.

Q Will you type it in for him and everything, or....

A Yeah, no I tend to do all that. And then we talk about it back and forth, and then sort of he puts it in his little sentences what he wants to put.

D Mummy, do you know what this is?

A I do not.

D It's....

A Can I guess? You tell me what it is and I'll tell you what I think it is, or what it could be. Show the camera. Oooh, what do you think it could be used as?

D I think it can be a part ???

A A drinking flask.

D Because it might stink.

A It might stink? Hopefully nice ???

Q So does the school, they don't sort of use apps or anything for homework or anything?

A They do. Well they don't use apps but they might...you know like you'd go on....

Q Websites or something like that?

A Websites, things like that. But again I tend to do that.

Q I've heard from other families about sort of things like Times Table Rock Star and things like that, do they do anything like that?

A Well we haven't got that because Noah needs a new code. And I have asked his teacher, because he needs a new signing in code for that.

Q Oh I see, so it's more about just....

A Yeah.

Q So yeah he doesn't use it for spelling or maths or anything like that, or any sort of..

A No, they do have them though. They do have them.

Q Yeah. So will he use them, or will Jacqueline use them in due course do you think, if you've got the code and everything?

A Oh yeah, yeah.

Q And will that be on your tablet or...

A I think it will probably be on my phone. But then I'll probably have access...well could do both, because once I've signed in. But I tend to use my phone more like when I'm Googling, I don't know maybe because it's easier. Maybe because I'm used to that size.

D We got hair stuff.

Q Oh hair spray, yeah.

D No, hair....for your bath.

A Oh shampoo, oh OK.

D We have a little tiny....

A Conditioner?

D No....yeah!

A Bubble bath.

D Yeah bubble bath stuff.

A Ooh, make lots of bubbles. Do you like bubbles, Jacqueline?

D Yeah. Bubble, bubble, bubble.

A I don't like bubbles.

D Bubble bath, bubble bath.

A I need to get you some more bubble bath. I will pour it in though, not you. Half a bottle later!

Q So another thing about the phone that I remember I haven't asked you is really how much you use it for taking photographs and films as part of your family life.

A I take photographs probably every day.

Q Of the children, or...

A Of Noah and Jacqueline.

Q Yeah. And do they sort of participate, apart from as subjects and obviously posing for photographs, do they...

A Noah doesn't really like his photograph taking.

Q Does he not?

C I heard that.

A Do you like your photos taken, Noah?

C No.

A Yeah exactly, that's what I'm saying.

Q I bet he couldn't wait to get down here, so yeah we've been discovering the LEGO down here, it's amazing.

Q2 What are you doing?

Q What we're doing is, is Noah going to....



D I'm making a house.

Q2 You're making a house, wow.

A A futuristic house.

Q And she's wearing the GoPro so it's all being recorded as well, it's amazing.

C Jacqueline, your arm's in the way.

Q No it's fine, it doesn't matter at all, don't worry, she's doing a good job with it aren't you, Jacqueline?

A So you saw Noah's toys?

Q2 Yes, wow!

Q Built by Lindsay, the ??? under his bed there.

A Oh yeah, and the castle. The castle was....it's five castles all in one.

Q2 Five castles?

A Yeah, I ordered five. Then custom built it.

Q2 ??? wonderful torches, I've seen everything.

Q That's lovely, thanks Alex.

Q2 ???

Q Yeah no I got ??? last week so, but you've got the inside of you, so that's marvellous.

A Inside of Noah's mind – well his bedroom.

Q Well his views and opinions are very important to us. So you take loads of pictures, loads of photos of....

A I do, of them really.

Q Yeah. And do you share them with them, do you have like a family time when you might view those or do they.....

A Yeah. When I take pictures I show them. But yeah, wait....so look.

Q So this is a photo of this...

A This is yesterday, with Jacqueline.

Q Oh my heavens, that's an arty shot, so I have to take pictures with the.....

A ??? I don't know why she did have it in her mouth, but yeah with the remote control.

Q Yeah. So do you like to do fun photos, I mean you've got the Face app thing.

A That's Noah last night, he looked so cute.

Q Oh how cute is that.

A Oh you don't know, you've not seen this one, you were fast asleep.

C No! Mum! I heard you. I was pretending I was asleep.

A Weren't you asleep?

C I weren't asleep.

A I woke you up about 10 minutes after that.

C I didn't want to go upstairs.

A Oh didn't you now.

Q Oh that's so cute.

A And I took some of my tree.

Q So do you just show them at the time, or would you like as a family practice come back to those at certain times?

A No, I normally show them at the time.

Q Yeah.

A Noah doesn't like his picture taken. I've made this, showed him this the other day.

Q Oh let's see.

A This is Noah, oh Noah....oh God, here he comes. That's going to be Christmas, I've made it, the film.

Q I'm getting a sneak preview. So how have you done this?

C I said never show anyone, you promised.

A I didn't. This is what sorry?

Q How have you done this?

A Oh in a phone app, where you just add all the pictures. He's 4 there. Obviously his birthday is Christmas Day.

Q It's Christmas Day, yeah. So do you like to do that sort of thing, arrange the photos.

A I like doing that with the photos.

Q Do you like looking back as well, is that something you do?

A I look at photos every day.

Q Yes, you've got a lovely selection there. Gorgeous. Are they all on your phone?

A Yeah I've got over 3,000 pictures on my phone and they're nearly all of Noah and Jacqueline. Probably about 5 of me.

Q Do they ever want to take your phone and take photos themselves?

A Er....no, not really no.

Q So it's more a practice that you like and they're involved in.

A Yeah. I mean Jacqueline actually in the past has said 'Mum, can I take a picture' and I've said yeah. But it's something they're not really...they don't tend to ask or are interested in.

Q Does Jacqueline like to ask you to take photos of her, or does she say 'Mum, take a picture of this'?

A She does if she's dressed up in a dress. So she goes 'Mum', I go 'come here' and I'll take a picture of her.

Q And do you ever use it to record things like models they make, or the drawings they do or other things they've done?

A Yeah I have done. Hold on a minute...video....oh they're all different ones. I've got a lot stored away you see.

Q How do you store them, is it just chronologically?

A These are all Noah younger.

Q Oh this is some film as well.

A He's going to hate me. Watch this. Oh it's upside down.

Q So is it mainly photos or is it a lot of film as well?

A Mainly photos, because yeah I love photos.

Q And do you keep them on your device or do you ever print them out.

A Because I'm on Facebook. Yeah I print them out, I need to print some more. But I'm on Facebook as well. And I don't really put stuff on Facebook apart from pictures of Noah and Jacqueline. Because I've only got a small group of friends anyway.

Q Right, so will you comment and put them up?

A We were joking about it the other day I need to ??? friends, because we were talking about Facebook and I was saying I bet people are like 'oh my God there's another picture of Noah and Jacqueline'.

Q So going back to, we've got two sets of questions here ??? and the first set is about children's play and creativity in general terms. And we've sort of talked about some of these subjects I would say anyway but it's just to see if you want to add anything or come back to anything that we've spoken about before. So we've spoken about the kinds of play that they typically engage in, but I wondered if you just wanted to characterise for me the way you see each one playing, what's the sort of typical things that they'll play with ???

A Well obviously Playmobil. I mean Noah loves the vehicles and, well he likes his house. Loves the Nintendo now. But it's mainly creativity stuff, it's all....like they love crafts, arts and crafts. So they like things from scratch, and if it's not from scratch it's....again it's imaginary play, like with the houses and stuff you know, the people. But yeah we have got board games but we haven't played with them recently actually.

Q And how about drawing and colouring?

A They love all that, love all that yeah, and making stuff, and painting and glueing.

Q I wondered about things like singing and dancing, you've not really spoken much about music, I noticed.

A No. Well we do like music and we have music on, and Jacqueline will dance, I will mess about and dance – can't dance. And Noah, will you dance a bit?

C No.

A No, Noah doesn't dance.

C I've made a big gun.

Q No that's fine. What sort of music do you like, or what do you have on?

A Oh all the classics. I've quite a lot of oldie stuff on actually, from the 80s.

Q Can you give me some examples?

A Not really. Well not 80s but I love Queen.

Q OK, right yeah. Where do you get the music from, are you doing it from the tablet, or have you got a CD?

A They're on my phone and also...yeah like the 80s Channel.

Q Oh the 80s Channel, I didn't know about that.

A It's on 83 I think. I think it's on 83, I'll have a look. Now 80s.

Q And what will prompt that kind of thing?

A I don't know. I listen to it probably every day, I love music.

Q Do you, often?

A Yeah, I do it when I'm like doing housework as well, because then you don't get distracted and sit down you see, you put that on and turn it louder and then you can Hoover away. If you see a documentary you're like 'oh I'll watch that' and then you don't get nothing done. So 'let's listen to music'.

Q So Jacqueline just joins in with what you ever...

A Jacqueline joins in. And she quite often sings along with like adverts and stuff that she sees, she sings along to stuff like that. They have messed about before, done like dance routines, them two.

C Er!

A Er! Have you? With Jacqueline.

C No.

A Yeah, you have. I've got proof from last week, I've got proof Noah.

C No!

A Alright.

C I did not do that.

A OK, did not do what?

Q You're not so keen on talking about it, I can understand that, it's fine. So when you say dance routines are you talking about like they copy something off the telly?

A No these two, these two.

Q Is it something they've learnt at school or...

A Well they do The Floss.

Q Oh yes, off Fortnite.

A Yes.

Q Oh brilliant. Any of the other dances?

A They're quite good at that.

Q Because there's a million of those.

A Yes.

Q Where did you learn that Noah, can I just ask, is it just like you picked up from your friends?

A Where did you learn it?

Q Have you played Fortnite because I thought....

A No he hasn't.

Q No. So are you just getting it from friends at school sort of thing, or do you watch it on YouTube or anything like that?

A Noah, listen to the question, babe.

C I've learnt in....I don't know.

Q Not sure?

A Well have you played the game or not?

C No.

A So where have you learnt it, how did you come across it?

C Er....

A I would say friends. You see that's how I knew about it when he used to tell me about it.

Q So they were doing The Floss and things like that the other day.

A Oh yeah.

Q Great.

A Went on for about 45 minutes. It was very long.

- Q Was it just The Floss. And you were involved in this, or you were just watching?
- A Yeah, well they rehearsed for about an hour.
- Q Oh my goodness, so it's like a show. That's great. Oh that's brilliant.
- A It was very good.
- Q Did you film it or were you not allowed?
- A I didn't film that one, no. Noah's very...he doesn't like his picture taken.
- Q No it's absolutely fine, don't worry.
- A That's good, I like that, is it a table?
- C No.
- D I'm going to make a girl party hat.
- A A girl party hat? What about a boy party hat.
- D I've done a boy's.
- A A dog party hat, how about that?
- Q So they're tending to play sort of here at home I'm guessing.
- A Yeah.
- Q What about outdoor play?
- A Park. Bikes.
- Q Are those bikes I saw in the kitchen theirs by any chance?
- A Noah got a flat tyre, he needs a...got popped about 4 weeks ago, so he needs an inner.....
- C No, last month.
- A Yes, 4 weeks ago Noah. OK, alright, let you off, five weeks.
- C No more than that. More than 5 weeks.
- A OK.
- Q So you'll take them to the park maybe, or do you do it on the road here, or where will you....

A No. Well we'll go on the path and then up to the park, or to that park.

Q Which park do you...oh yes I think you told me there's several here, yeah.

A So we just go under.....yeah so obviously we go on the paths by them. But yeah and climbing, they love climbing. Running around obviously. They're not into....Noah's not into football. But you do like it at school though don't you?

C I don't play it at school.

A I know you don't, but you do like it when you've played it with a couple of your friends. That's what you told me.

C But I don't like it any more.

A You don't like it any more.

Q And when you say climbing, are we talking about climbing trees, climbing frames?

A Climbing frames, climbing walls, yeah both of them like that. Climbing and sliding back down, or jumping back down. What do you like doing at school, Noah?

C Nothing.

A No, at playtime, what do you do at school?

C Play.

A Yeah, what type of play?

C Erm....

A What type of play do you do?

C Getting mucky.

Q So what would you say the balance was between your children's indoor and outdoor play – I know that depends on the season a little bit?

A I'd say most of it is indoor. Wait, summer's a bit different, they'll be out in the garden. Oh it's a right mess at the moment, it's not always like that.

Q I haven't been out the back, what have you got out the back, is it a lawn or....

A Yeah we do have a lawn, yeah. When it's done it's very nice.

Q And do you have toys outside in the garden at all, or vehicles or anything, apart from the bikes?



A Yeah we've got....well we have a trampoline, they play with that. They've got a play house, you know a wooden play house with a little ladder going up to it. And then like in the summer obviously they get like their balls out and the swimming pool, we have a BBQ as well, so they like all that.

Q Do you mean like a paddling pool?

A Yeah.

Q What do they particularly like out of those things this last summer would you say, because we had some hot spells, didn't we?

A The water. Yeah and barbie [barbecue]. Yeah just being out. Noah quite likes laying down and stroking Susie.

Q Oh the cat, yeah.

A She likes sunbathing.

C Called Fluffy.

A Called Fluffy. She sunbathes on the little tree, we've got a little bay tree out there, a little tree. She lays under that, yeah.

Q Oh that's sweet. Is Noah quite keen on animals then? Or is it just the cat particularly?

A Yeah he loves....well they both love animals, but yeah cats are our favourite. Noah's very cat....yeah, he's into cats, aren't you Noah?

C What?

A Noah told me he wants to work in a cattery, don't you? So do I. I want to work in a cattery.

Q Susie could give you a reference.

A They'd weigh a lot less. I don't mind picking a cat up.

Q Does that come out in any other ways, his love of animals, or for Jacqueline, you know sort of drawing or reading books or films or...

A Not reading, but drawing. And when we are out and about Noah stops and stares at every cat and names them. So he gives them their own name. don't you?

C That one up there is called Grumpy.

A Alright. And the one next to it is called what?

C I've never actually....

A You did.

C No, I've never named that one.

A You did.

C No, I didn't.

A Alright.

C I don't name those. Well I'm thinking of a name, I can't name them, they're odd.

Q Noah, can I just ask ???

C That one's called Fluffy now.

A You called one Fluffball.

Q Is there a reason that you would give a cat a name, is it so you feel like you're getting to know them better or something?

C I don't know.

Q Yeah, I just wondered why you did it, it's a lovely practice, a lovely thing to do.

A I think it is. I think it's to do with that.

Q Do you like to make up names like based on what they look like and stuff like that?

C Yeah.

Q Yeah, that's what we do.

C The one up there is Fluffy.

A I'm sure you called one Fluffball as well.

C Yeah, that's the same cat.

A Oh you changed it to Fluffy? Oh!

Q So would you say their play is, you know they've been interested in the same things for quite a long time, would you say it's sort of evolved in any way?

A It has evolved but they have been in...in what they're involved with now it has been a long process sort of thing, a long....

Q So over a long period of time.

A A long period. But obviously the type of, you know like obviously we've had Playmobil for many years, we've had LEGO for many years, but obviously their imagination changes and whatever they see outside or on telly might change, or what they're certain into. Like if he's watching, I don't know, police stuff, then he might think 'oh I'll make something police-y' or you know.

Q Yeah. So you often see the impact of that sort of thing coming out almost at once in what they do next almost.

A Yeah, he does that, he does that quite often. She also does that as well, but a lot of Jacqueline's is princess-y stuff, Princess P??.

Q Yes. But didn't you tell me that Jacqueline was really into Batman as well?

A She does like Batman. I don't know if that's through me because I love Batman.

Q Right, yes.

A So she's sort of like 'yeah, let's watch Batman'. Noah's like 'oh....'

Q So when you say 'watch Batman' are you thinking...is it the latest incarnations, because it's obviously got a massive long history. What films have you got, have you got favourite ones?

A Yeah. There's a few. I like the ones with Christian Bale.

Q Right, and do you watch them over and over.

A Because they're quite dark, I think they're like a 12 or something, but she's watched them. I've allowed her. Because they're not like, you know.... But yeah she really likes it. She likes Batman.

Q And do you see that impacting on Jacqueline's play as well, or is it more Noah's?

A I would say more Noah's. Jacqueline tends to sort of be....it's always nice play. He will be more like destructive and....like not destructive in like a negative, but what I mean is like it will be police, it will be a police chase or a vehicle.....

Q So active and adventurous and risk-taking sort of thing?

A Yeah, Transformers yeah. Jacqueline's is princess.

D Princess!

A Yay! Girly girly. Calm. Party. Happy. Floral. Nice. Pretty pretty.

Q Yeah that's interesting, yeah that it's distinct in that.

A It's more soft and more gentle.

Q I was remembering about....are you making a car? Oh that's great.

A It's a futuristic car.

Q Is it going to be a car of the future?

C It can move.

Q Is it going to be a car for children maybe that they can drive?

A What is it?

C No, a LEGO Jurassic world car.

Q Oh OK, a LEGO Jurassic world car.

A Oh beautiful. Oh I like the front.

Q Oh Jacqueline that's gorgeous. The front door is fantastic, I love that. I just want to go in and out of that all the time.

A So what are all these little little ticks, what are these on the top?

D What?

A They look like little bottoms.

D No these are the drink but I put them up there.

A Oh, for storage.

Q2 What about these?

A Yeah, what are they?

D They're little ??? and drinks.

Q Oh right.

A So which ones are the drinks?

D This one there, that one, that one, that one and that one.

A So which ones are the flowers?

D These ones here, so not the ??? not drinks.

A Oh OK.

D There's no flowers on.

A On that side? It's very pretty.

D Yeah, all flowers and.....

A So is it a shop, or house, or what is it?

D House.

A OK, with lots of cups. Could be a café.

D Yeah a café! ??? an area you can sit down.

Q So what do you think is the value of play in your children's lives?

A The value of play?

Q It's a very broad question, but answer it as you will.

A Happiness. Fun. And childhood. I think it is a positive because obviously it makes the time go by doesn't it, but also they love it. And why not? If you can play, why not?

Q I mean you talk about happiness, one of the things we're interested is sort of the way in which they express emotion when they are playing, and you know if you can read their emotions as they play. I wondered if you had any thoughts on that?

A Well, Noah's quite a deep thinker, he's quite a deep person in general, obviously without being with toys. But I think Noah is a...Jacqueline is more open. I don't know.

Q Yes. So would you say the way in which they play, would you say some things are better for their well-being than others, or do you have any feelings about some forms of play perhaps being better or worse for them – or let's say limiting or less limiting ???

A I don't know. Because again you could see....I don't really find there's a negative. Because they're quite well-behaved kids anyway, obviously they have squabbles and stuff, so I don't really find myself...I don't know, like it's a negative. Not yet anyway. Maybe when they hit teenage years.

Q So any form of play is sort of a valid form in your point of view?

A I think so.

Q It keeps them....they're in the happiness, you know sort of where they're just happy and fun.

A Yeah. Because obviously no one makes you play, if you want to play you play. So you know like Noah, well obviously recently he's been having this so he's been on that. But yeah they go through episodes of sometimes they just want to draw, and Noah will be sat there for a couple of hours just drawing or sketching. And then Jacqueline will sometimes might go through periods of just pretending to do English or Maths.

Q Oh really, what you mean in writing, doing it in a book?

A Yeah, or stories and then like drawing and stuff. So it's like it gets their mind working and the cogs moving.

Q [To Noah] Oh so that's the base. I remember you talking about the base of the Batmobile and we couldn't see it very well. So this one, we're seeing it from the very bottom up, which is really good.

A Oh from scratch, yes. I like the front, Noah, with the white panel in.

Q If you want to use any of your own LEGO as well, if you don't feel the pieces are there, then by all means mix it up, you don't have to do it just with this at all. You know I just wanted to ask....

D We've got some ???

C ??? glass windows.

Q Oh wow. That's the brown there. You know the gold Batman and the black Batman, are they Playmobil or are they LEGO figures?

A LEGO. Yeah they're LEGO.

Q Right. And so I think you were saying that you prefer to buy LEGO, you know you like the classic LEGO, you don't like sets and stuff like that, is that right?

A Yeah.

C I like sets.

Q And you like sets. What do you like about them then, what's the attraction?

C I like, you can.... like the vehicles are good.

Q Are they?

A Yeah they do look good, don't they?

Q Yeah. Have you got any of those, Noah?

C No.

Q Is there a type of vehicle that you particularly like?

A Well this is new to me as well, so go for it.

Q Is there a type of LEGO vehicle that you'd like to get? Or is that what you're building now, is that why you're building what you're building?

C No.

D This is funny, an eye.

A It's an eye?

D Yeah.

A Let's have a look.

C It is, it's a LEGO eye.

A Oh I like that. Or it's a mouth with a sweetie in it. A white Smartie. Here babe. Oh it's lost in the carpet for ever.

Q So again, how important do you feel play is in your family life?

A Well important, yeah. They enjoy it.

Q Yes and I suppose that has a knock-on effect for you as a parent that you....

A Yeah, because I like toys anyway, I'm a big fan. And when we were young we had a lot of toys.

Q So does that make you enjoy....now that you don't play with them so much, I think you've said you've sort of come away from it so you don't need to because they're got each other.

A I used to more with Noah. But I think since Jacqueline's come along and she's now at that age, I think I've had a step back. Two reasons, one because he's now got someone to play with, and two, I've sort of lost interest in terms of how ??? gets that deep in. But now they like bounce off each other anyway, so I'm like 'oh I can go and do tea now', I'm like 'in a bit'. And I'm older now. You play with each other.

Q So how does it make you sort of feel when you see them playing well together and stuff like that?

A Oh I love it, he's spying on me now. I knew you'd hear that. Spying on me.

Q So I've seen you interact with them a lot like you're doing today, what's this, what's that and that sort of thing, is that part of your normal routine, is that how it would be when you play with them?

A Yeah. I mean obviously like if you weren't here I might be down there doing a bit, but I won't be for hours doing this, because I've got cooking to do.

Q Yeah. Would you like to be more....

A Yeah, I do like LEGO. Yeah I mean....I don't know, probably not. I do like it though, but I've not actually sat there and built from scratch. I've helped and I've helped looking for bits and stuff, do you know what I mean, because we've got a lot of LEGO. So I've helped that way, or sort of giving them....like if I've seen some bits and I think 'oh that might be quite good' and I've put them to the side and 'oh, what about them' and then they've used them or not.

D Mum look inside, look inside the house.

A Oh I like it.

D It's their shop.

A Oh it's a shop. What type of shop?

C Have you got a door, I need a door.

D There are no more doors.

C Have you one of the snoopy things.

Q2 You'll have to make one.

A You'll have to make one, yeah.

Q2 How can you make one?

A Is there a hinge?

D Like one of these.

C No, I don't think there's a hinge.

D That's one of these here.

A Let's look for a hinge. You may not have one. It's good having them on here isn't it, pictures. Don't think they've got any hinges. You've got them upstairs though, go up, there might be a hinge. Look in your black pile, Noah.

C What?

A There's some little thing that looks like a hinge, sort of type of thing.

C Yeah I've got two of those.

A You do actually, it says ??? what are they? Are they hinges?

C They're not.

A Oh OK.



C I'll choose one of these, these are ???

A ???

C Mummy I've a lot of these.

A What are they? Oh mind ??? look in the grey section.

C Or white.

A Well ???

Q2 ??? number one.

Q So do these guys ever get to play with sort of cousins or anybody like that, do they have other children that they mix with apart from at school?

A No. We have one group of friends, well not a group, they're siblings, where they've come here and played and we've gone to theirs, which is Maisie, Selina and Ethan. So they like playing, so they're siblings.

Q Oh right OK, what ages are they?

A They are 3, 6 and 8. So the eldest is the boy.

Q OK. And do they frequently visit or....

A No not often, just a few times. But they've enjoyed it. But they play at school and see them at school. But it tends to be school environment. So basically the majority of the time at home it is these two jumping on each other – well you know bouncing back and forth.

Q Yeah that's right, yeah.

A But yeah it tends to just be us in the house.

Q Yeah OK, that's fine, that's absolutely fine. And do you sort of particularly value creativity would you say? Do you think about encouraging them to be creative in their playing or their school work?

A Yeah and their opinions.

Q And in their opinions too, in all aspects. In what aspects of life, just....?

A Yeah, to how you feel or what you.. go with it. Your decisions or ideas. Put it out there.

Q Yes. So you try and sort of support that do you and encourage it.

A Yeah, they're fine like that anyway and....yeah.

Q Do you mean in terms of children generally, or other people, or for yourself?

A Everything. Yeah I think it's being open, open-minded about things and, like in anything, debates or anything you just....and play.

Q How will you encourage them to be creative in things that they do and make, for example?

A Well listening to what they think and then share ideas. And then get them thinking of stuff, not just with play, with anything. About like opinions or right from wrong, or the news or whatever. Gets them to sort of think of the outer world, the bigger picture in things of views on anything, life, animals, cruelty, bad stuff.

Q Are these things that you've actually...you can think of that you've had discussions about?

A We've had discussions about, yeah. Like I've said to you before, about outdoor play with children, we've talked about that. They bring it up. He brings it up. And I say '??? why is that boy on the ???' and I think it's because I ??? I'm like 'I don't know babe', he's like 'there's no parent'.

Q And you feel that's not good for children of a certain age?

A At certain ages I don't agree with it. Yeah, I think there should be parents more out there instead of kicking the kids out there at a certain age and shutting the door behind them. Some of my friends do that.

Q And what role do you think parents should have in outdoor play?

A Be there. Supervise them. I still watch them and obviously give them that space, but at the same time be there.

Q So it's almost a bit like your lunchtime to supervisor role but just more like with outdoor play.

A Before I did this job anyway at school, obviously I avoid them as a sort of parent, but before working at school I always did it with other children. Like I'm very aware of kids walking backwards and forwards to the shops and stuff, or walking around. If I see a child I want to approach that child. I would never ever walk past a child on their own. And I've done it numerous times, I've done it numerous of times round here. I've done it with a.... I've done it with numerous kids around here.

Q And what will you do exactly, you'll approach them and....

A I will approach them, speak to them. And I found a boy a few months ago, he was tiny. I found out he was under 3. He was walking on his own and I was with them. And I thought 'oh my God'. And I walked over to him, I couldn't understand what he was saying because it was baby language, and I walked around with him and I said 'come with me', do

you know what I mean? I didn't hold his hand because he was just a bit....and I was like 'come here'.

Q He was looking concerned, yeah.

A Yeah. I said 'do you have a mum and dad', I just thought like you know baby talk. And he told me where he lived by pointing. I went in there and the mum came out, and 'he's be playing in the garden', a front garden with no gates, and there she is, lets him out. Anyway, so she didn't thank me, so I walked away thinking....you know, I've just saved your child from getting run over. I've done that quite a lot. Another girl I saw on her own, she was hiding behind some....there's a little....

C Yeah painted.

A No she had white cream on her face, didn't she? What are they called, electrical, you know an electrical box.

Q Oh I know, the sort of....yeah where they've got all the wires.

A And there was a girl hiding there.

Q Behind one of the boxes on the pavement.

A And she looked younger than Noah.

C She is younger than me.

A Yeah, how old was she? Did she say she was 8?

C Yeah.

A She was hiding on her own. And the amount of times I've seen people walking past kids and I think...I do it in town as well. I will be the person who can spot a child with no parent. I don't know why I do it, I just....I don't look for it, I don't go 'oh' and in no way am I calling myself a perfect parent – no way. But I don't know, it's like a zone in. I will be in town and I will spot a child. And I always watch, and I'll wait until, you know then I realise that the parent is there and then I'll walk off then.

Q Yeah, so you're just sort of looking out for them.

A I just see it. I just see it. And my sister as well, my sister's gone like that as well. She's like, I don't know, she went 'it's rubbing off on me'. And I said 'I know'. It annoys me sometimes.

Q What age do you think children should be more able to be more independent and play outside?

A Well I think it varies because obviously it depends where you live. But when you live say on my road where it's a road, to me I don't think you should give a child a football for

instance because they play outside on a road. A ball, to me, balls are round and they bounce and they get kicked and they get thrown, and where do they get thrown?

C They always kick the ball around yours.

A I know. And they're back and forth, back and forth.

Q Across the road, yeah.

A If you lived in a cul-de-sac or you lived on the banking of a field, to me it's a completely different thing.

Q That would be a more acceptable thing.

A It depends where your house is positioned. Obviously it comes with age as well, but I think I would never....like say now if I let Noah out to play I would always be aware...well we've not had that, we've had the discussion but we've not had the....we've not done it have we?

C Yes you have.

A No we've had the discussion.

C No, yeah but you ???

A And where did you go, though?

C Up the road.

A You went up the road. And how many....

C Yeah, you stood there though, do you remember?

A Yes. Yes.

Q In the doorway.

A And how long did you do it for, how many times in your life?

C Once.

A Exactly. It was when you went up that path there and you went one door up on the path.

C No, more than one door.

A No you didn't. Alright one and a half! And yeah I obviously would be aware of what they're doing, I would never dream of saying 'there's a football, go and play with that'. It would either be....I don't know what it would be but it would be something what you can play on ??? hopscotch, skipping Noah, you get your skipping rope.

C No, you made me say 'one of those'.

A One of those.

C One of those!

A Yeah I find some of the stuff I find inappropriate, I just think there are quite a lot of kids on here playing out and I look at their ages and they're from about 2 onwards. And I look out, and plenty of times I have looked out of my window and there's no parent, and I look out and think....

Q Yeah. And you feel they need....is it mainly traffic danger that you're worried about?

A It's mainly traffic danger, yeah. And I just think it's....why....when your child is that young, play with them at the park, play with them in your garden, or play with them in your house, there is no reason for you to be in the house when your child is that young, outside. To me that's...and it's one of my passions, I absolutely hate it, it infuriates me. And the amount of children at school who I am aware who play out, do you know what I mean? Because obviously working there as well I've had these conversations. And obviously it's each to their own and I would never tell a parent how to parent, but when I have these children and they're like 'oh well I went and knocked on his door' and I'm like 'oh did you, did you go and play then', 'yeah and then we went outside'. And I'm just listening to these stories. They're out on their bike and they're just, you know going on....and I think 'oh my God, where are the parents'. And it's easier for them to go 'oh yeah, yeah go and play'. Now to me, I'm very strong minded anyway, like whatever decision I make in life it's what I believe in and what I...I would never, ever follow suit in someone else's opinions, or be the sheep, that's not me. And it has got me in bother sometimes. Because if I don't agree with something I don't agree. I don't care if my best friend does or not, it's...you know I don't.... So I don't know, it's just....I don't know it's....

Q Where do you think it comes from, why are you so passionate about this?

A I don't know I just....

Q Yeah, so I just wondered if there's anything you can pinpoint that sort of lay behind that really.

A My dad's quite opinionated on...

Q Yeah and I was thinking about this particular issue, is what I was thinking.

A That really infuriates me, I don't know, I just think...

Q Yeah, that's interesting, thank you.

A I don't know. Like when Noah was younger, obviously Jacqueline as well but obviously Noah was my firstborn, I always...in fact I talked about this the other day. I love going shopping with them, I love it.

Q Yes you mentioned it at the last visit didn't you.

A A lot of people are like 'oh I can't wait until the kids go to school'. I find it quite negative. I find quite a lot of people negative about their kids.

Q So do you feel people are a bit dismissive of their kids and haven't got time for them, perhaps don't take the time to talk to them or be with them, is that the kind of thing that you value?

A Yeah I do think that. And I just think....obviously I'm sometimes like 'oh I can't be bothered', 'oh later', you know I'm not....you know. But I like them with me sort of thing. I don't like....I love going out for instance with them. I don't really like making plans without them. Or say I just need to go into town, I might think 'oh I need to do that, oh yeah I could go now', 'oh no, no, I'll go after school' or 'I'll go at the weekend because then we can go to more shops and then we can have a McDonalds or something'.

Q So you're sort of inclusive like that.

A I like doing that, and so they like doing that. So Noah will be like 'do we have to look at Christmas decorations', but certain things....and I think they like that as well.

Q Yeah, so you enjoy their company.

A I enjoy their company. And it's the same with summer holidays. A lot of parents, and because I'm around parents I hear it quite a lot. They can't wait till they go back to school. But me, I love....just off, and we'll get out and we'll do what we want and we come back and we'll talk about it and do something. I love all that. I love their company. I love their personalities, I love their company. I don't really get frustrated or fed up with them so to speak. I think maybe because I'm just a child at heart really. Definitely not by body... Yeah, definitely not the outer shell, falling apart.

Yeah I like them.

Q You like them, yes.

A It's quite good to be liking your kids, isn't it. Very helpful, it's very helpful.

Q So bringing us round then to questions about play and technology now. So I think we've covered most of this so let's just list the way that technology features in their play. And do you regard, when they interact with devices, digital devices, do you see that as play as well – that's something I'm interested in.

A Oh yeah it's definitely play.

Q Yeah. So you muck about....let's start on the sort of less thing. So you muck about sometimes on your phone together, you might use the Face app you mentioned.

A Yeah we've done that. Jacqueline likes that.

D What?

A The Face app with the ears and noses on you, on your face.

Q And they've also used apps and things on your father's and his partner's phone, is that right?

A Oh yeah and they watch films on that, on my dad's phone, fun games and colouring games as well on them as well. They like all them.

Q Yeah, on your dad's phone?

A On my dad's phone. I haven't got any games on my phone. Because...well that's why I bought the tablet, because the tablet's not even mine. I bought the tablet for them.....

D Maybe want that one.

A I look at it like that. I bought them that for them, so then they've got something else in the house as a screen instead of this. Because obviously this is my phone and it has all sorts of information on it and you don't really want your phone to be broken on....you know. I bought them that last year. I don't even...in fact my email's on it, I set it up because it's a Google account isn't it, but I never, ever go on to it.

Q No, so that's just for them.

A I bought it for them. And it's always there. I mean well I have it here, obviously it's there because it's charged. But I have it on...

Q You have it on the TV but otherwise it's...yeah.

A It's fully charged. Yeah it just lives there and if they want to get it, they get it and...

Q And the DVDs, yeah.

Q2 Julia, does Jacqueline have a journal? for her sticker tape ???

Q We did yes.

A Jacqueline lost hers. We don't know where it is. I think it's in with her paperwork somewhere in the house.

Q Well you did have it before, didn't you. Oh I'm sure Beth's taken photos of it before. But if you have any other like sketch books or scrap books or anything, or....

A Stick it on your jumper. Stick it on somewhere.

Q Stick it on anywhere, yeah that's fine. Jacqueline did you want...oh you're going to stick it on the Go Pro, it's up to you, don't mind, I don't think it will damage it.

A Just not the screen bit.

Q Do you want me to....

A No not the camera bit babe.

Q Do you want to switch it off, are you fed up with it now? Or are you happy to keep it....have you finished?

D How do you turn it off?

Q Alex, can you remember if it's the top one or the...

Q2 It's one of the old models isn't it?

Q Yes it is, yeah. Well just have a go and just see which one stops the light flashing, it's one of two. You'll have to hold on to it, it's really, really....that's it.

Q2 There we go.

Q I never get it right. Whichever one I choose it's the wrong button.

A ??? out there looking at it filming yourself. What babe?

D A tongue.

A Oh my God, that's so cute.

D Tongue.

A Tongue? That's really cute. It looks a bit like your plant, and it's got the eyes.

Q Oh thank you Jacqueline that's absolutely great, thank you so much for wearing that, that's marvellous. Jacqueline.....

D It's ???

A Oh I like the colours.

D It's a phone.

A Let's have a look at the phone.

C Christmas is not.....Christmas is ???

Q Do you want to...maybe Alex could film you talking through what all the bits and bobs do, unless that's been happening already I don't know. But how futuristic it is and what the ideas are. Are you going to have a go, Noah?

C Yes.

Q Oh lovely. Oh that's fine, you pop it over your head. Fine.



A Oh, maybe not.

Q It's alright. Be careful.

A It's Jacqueline's size sweetie, you might not get it on. That's it, so it should go on now. Yeah there we go. So that's how it ???

Q Just talk to....how you were saying before. Oh Jacqueline, come back, just for one second.

A What game are you going on, babe? Jacqueline, just here.

D Subway Surf.

A Subway Surf.

Q That's your fave isn't it?

A She's really good at this. I tried this and I'm like 'oh my God am I just really stupid'. I end up dying before long.

Q2 Is it OK if I film you playing Jacqueline, is that OK.

A Oh show me that drink ???

Q Jacqueline, actually I've got a question that I've just remembered I wanted to ask you. Have you ever looked at any Barbie things on YouTube or on the tablet there, do you ever watch Barbie things, because I know you're getting quite interested in Barbie aren't you?

D Yes.

A Not recently have you?

Q But you have like....well perhaps you could tell Alex a bit about those later, that would be fantastic. So Alex is going to....oh you're going to do that on screen, fantastic. OK so we've got the tablet, we've now got the Switch, you've got a Wii I think but you don't use it very much?

A Yeah, no that's in Noah's room but you don't really use it, do you?

Q OK and you've got something, a console in Noah's room that he doesn't use very much?

A Oh yeah you've got....well he's got two Wii's and it's got like the Wii Fitness you know with the board, what's it called?

Q Yeah, the balance board thing, yes I know.

A Yeah he's got that as well. He doesn't really go on that.

Q No OK.

A You don't really do it do you? Not been on it for months.

Q And what about at their dad's house, do they get any sort of access there or anything?

A Erm...no, since he bought this he takes that up. He takes that [the Nintendo Switch].

Q Right, yeah that's interesting.

A You go on your Nintendo don't you at your dad's. What else do you do at your dad's, electrical.

D We get a ???

A Do you go on any other stuff? Do you go on your dad's phone?

C Yeah.

A Do you? What do you do on his phone?

C Watch YouTube, that's all.

A Oh OK. What do you watch?

C Jelly.

Q Jelly the YouTuber, the Minecraft YouTuber, you showed me him the other week. So did you dad recommend Jelly to you, or did you know about him, Noah, before?

C No. I knew about him.

Q Do you know about him from your mates at school sort of thing? How did you find him then?

C I just pressed Minecraft and I just saw this....

A Oh was that how you came across him?

C I just typed in Minecraft. I watch Preston now, I watch Preston too.

Q Is there any technology, digital technology, that you think we've actually missed out or have we covered it all?

A I don't think so because we haven't got a lot of....got a telly, DVD, Nintendo.

Q No robotic toys or have you ever used augmented reality or anything like that?

A Well they've got like some like....obviously she's got like a laptop and, well two little laptops, like kiddies things, that are electrical.

Q Oh yeah, sort of like Leap Pad type things are they? So they're educational type things?

A They're educational, like maths and English, and games on them but the whole maths and stuff. And Snatch and all that.

Q Do they get used much?

A Not that often. But they're all there, and they have obviously over the years they've had them, and the alphabets and all that. And you've got....Noah's got a little electrical...in fact does it work? I've not seen you have it for a few months, your flying robot.

C No, it does not work again.

A Does it need batteries?

Q What is it?

A It's a little flying remote control, it's a little flying robot. It's on your....do you need batteries?

C No.

A What's wrong with it?

Q So it's battery operated but it's not connected to the internet or anything like that?

A No, no. So it's just.....no. So that's it really.

Q OK. And it sounds like YouTube figures quite a lot in your lives a bit?

A Not in my life! But didn't you say you liked watching funny things....

A Oh yeah, yeah I watch them with them.

Q Do they come on via your Facebook or do you go on to YouTube and find the....

A Well on both. If I see something, I don't look for it but if I see it, like scroll down and see it on Facebook and think 'oh I might watch that'. But on YouTube I look for it.

Q Yeah. And what sort of things do you like?

A I quite like prank stuff.

Q Yes.

A I like magic as well actually.

Q You like magic?

A Yeah.

Q What sort of things?

A Street magic, just sort of....it's simple, card disappearing stuff. I don't know, they quite like that as well.

Q So would you say that they've got their particular devices that they like to go on when they do do tech play?

A Well yeah, because Noah's obviously this now, I mean the Switch. And Jacqueline, well hers will be the tablet. But again she doesn't really go on it much.

Q Does she ever use the tablet and do stuff on that at the same time as maybe playing with the Playmobil upstairs, or dressing up or....does it ever mix up like that?

A No, she doesn't really.

C Mum, I've got a pet sheep.

A Oh that's good. Oh they're on a lead. Or a bungee jump.

C Yeah it's a bungee jump, they'll all die. Yeah, yeah, they're definitely dead.

A And they've gone red, yes they have. They died.

C Oh, look they left me some food.

A Did they? How generous.

Q Alex is looking aghast there. Is this bad, the sheep?

Q2 No, no, it's OK. They're not sheep ???

Q They're ex sheep.

A It's a lamb chop. You be the ??? I'm going to say lamb.

Q Didn't actually kill those so that's alright.

A ??? but not on your ???

Q And do you have any particular times of the day when they might play on their devices?

A It's normally after school, it's normally after school. It's probably from about 6 onwards, 7 onwards they don't really it's normally telly time or playing time.

Q Do they have a routine before bed, would you let them play up to bedtime or anything like that?

A No, I mean when he first got that it was sort of like til bed, but now it's sort of....and I think it's part – I think it's a bit of both – it's a bit of he just tends to wean himself off it and I'm sort of 'right, are you getting off that now' and he's like 'yeah', and it's sort of....do you know what I mean, I don't have to like nag at him, he's sort of like not consumed in it.

Q He regulates himself and...yeah.

A Yeah.

Q Does he ever want to play it in a morning, or is that...

A Yeah he goes on it in a morning.

Q Before school?

A Before school. He's done that a couple of....you've done that a few times haven't you Noah, like a few times. I think because it's quite easy, it's up and running sort of when you grab it and it's so easy, you're straight in the game.

Q Right, yeah.

A Yeah he's done that. But they're very good at getting ready for school anyway, so they will come down fully clothed in their school uniform, so then if they've got time he's put himself on that. Haven't you Noah? But yeah they're very good at getting up and ready for school as well.

Q Yeah.

A I think that's one of the reasons. If they're fully dressed. Apart from getting you to clean your teeth before going on the Nintendo Switch, it's a bit of a different subject.

Q Yes.

A 'Do your teeth first, then you can go back on'.

Q How about the weekends or is that....so what's the routine at the weekends?

A Well at the weekend we normally go out. But again if it's in the morning he might go on that, or she'll play, just end up playing in her bedroom.

Q And does the Switch, so the Switch is in another room from his bedroom, he can take it....

A It's in here.

Q Tends to be in here. Does he tend to play it using the TV screen, like now?

A No most of the time he plays it on the settee. I've said to him a few times he might as well put it on that. Because I don't really watch telly, I don't really watch telly anyway at all until the night time. So I said to him before....

C Mum look. Mum, this is the best. Look, if you drop, you drop your pickaxe it actually bounces – look.

A Oh is it jelly?

C No it's slime. Look.

A ??? Is jelly edible but slime's not.

C Then if I get my shield I can put it there, got a shield.

A So what are you doing in this game, what are you doing? God that's close.

Q And how about Jacqueline, I mean obviously the Switch is a big thing for Noah, will she sort of like to go on tablet at the weekends or....

A No, because she loves movies. So again obviously that's electrical.

Q Yeah that's right, so will she....

A I mean I love movies as well.

Q So will she come down and put one on of her own choice?

A Yeah well she won't put it on because....she knows how to do it but a couple of times she's done it with the DVD upside down. So she will say to me 'mum, can I watch a film' and I'll say yes. And then I put it in for her, or Noah puts it in. But Noah does it, but Jacqueline no. Don't want her doing that. But yeah whenever she wants to watch a film I'm like 'yeah, put that on'. She likes watching movies. So she'll probably do that actually over a weekend, like on a Sunday or something. We normally go out on a Saturday. On a Sunday she'll probably do that.

Q Do you have films that you come back to often?

A Yes. Beauty and the Beast is one of them.

Q Which one? The Belle, sort of the new one with Emma what's-her-name?

A The new one with the real people, yeah. So she likes that. We watched it again the other day.

Q Yeah. Is that with Noah as well, or is it the two of you, a girly thing?

A Well he's in the room, then he might be even ??? and that, or he might go upstairs or back and forth.

Q And will Jacqueline ever dress up to watch the film, will she put her Belle outfit on?

A Well sometimes she does, sometimes she will just be absorbed in the movie.

Q Or afterwards will she go and dress up?

A Oh yes she'll do that.

Q So often it's immediately after having an impact on her.

A Yeah, she loves dressing up, she loves all that prettiness and....yeah. Puts her hair up don't you, Jacqueline. You were doing it the other day, weren't you.

Q Puts her hair up, what do you mean like...

A Puts her hair up, she like does bunches and does all that, she likes doing all that.

Q Has she learnt to do that from just film, because we were talking about plaiting the other day actually when we were here, weren't we, I just wondered if she....

A Oh yeah. Well her hair's so fine and it looks a mess. It looks a mess because she wants to grow it. She's growing a fringe. Oh yeah, it's gorgeous. But she's growing her fringe so she doesn't want a fringe any more. And then she said to me the other day 'I want my fringe cut', I was like 'we've took months to grow this, you're the one who didn't want it'. She goes 'but it keeps going in my eyes'. So we're using clips, but the clips keep falling out because her hair's so fine.

Q Do you do hairstyle, are you the hair stylist then for her, or do you do anything?

A Not really, we sort of tend to...

Q Because you can find all that sort of stuff on YouTube, do you ever use that for looking stuff up or....

A Because it's so fine anyway, it's like baby hair, I'm sort of 'no I'm not faffing about learning how to...' I mean I know how to do a plait but I don't know how to do French plaits.

Q No, but that's what we were talking about, that sort, yeah.

A But I've never looked into it. Yeah that's probably one of the reasons why I have my own hair short, don't want to faff about with hair styles – not interested. Brush it, yeah, wash it, get it cut – sorted. Dye it.

Q Yeah. Back to the technology and play, sorry. I'm just thinking of my list here. So do you feel that certain devices or apps or games that they have, technological digital games, do you think they promote play, certain ones more than others?

A Well, again they don't go on that many different types of games.

Q Do you think some are more productive than others in that way, or they get more enjoyment from them or....

A Yeah, yeah. No I think obviously that obviously varies.

D Oh no, got the ??? wrong.

A Road safety.

Q Oh that's the Crossy Road, yeah.

A Don't forget to save the children when you see them.

Q Do you think that some of the devices, the things they play on the devices, do you think they're more productive if they've got stuff that relates to them in the outside world as it were?

A Yeah I think that helps.

Q So things like, if they recognise it off LEGO or the Playmobil, or they've got the dressing up clothes that relates to the....you know.

A Yeah I think obviously it opens up for them to play it out, act it out what they've witnessed or what they've watched if they've got....

Q Yeah, so it's that link up between what they see on the device and in the outside world as well.

A Yeah, yeah.

Q I think we sort of mentioned this earlier. Do you think that anything limits their play, or you'd...

A I think maybe I might limit their play. It's to do with obviously the opportunities of outdoor and the limits of what we have as a family due to income and due to transport. And I think that limits. That's why I think, that's one of the reasons why they probably have a lot of physical toys is because when we're at home, which is quite often, it's a fun place to be. So that's why I take them, because we go to the cinema every month and then we do swimming, we've not been swimming for about 2 months actually. But other than that...I mean we go to play centres here and there, we've not done that for quite a while, but other than that....because like again they're not interested in you know like activities outside school, you know like I've said to you before about sport and stuff, they're not interested. And again that comes with money. But I have put that across to them 'would you like to do this' blah, blah, blah, and no. So I think maybe it might be part obviously they just don't find it interesting, and it might be a part of because they haven't had it are they missing out or do they feel they're missing out, or they don't crave it because they've not had it. I don't know. It might be because they're used to their little environment of 'we like toys, we like movies, we like...' do you know what I mean, it's sort of my little world what I build them is sort of what they've witnessed.



- Q Yeah, you've put a lot into making this as a fun place to be, your home.
- A I do try. I think that might be part of it, of why....
- Q Yeah, that's why you do it.
- A Yeah. Yeah I do like toys.
- C This is what a red stone master does.
- A A what? A red stone master?
- C Yeah this is red stone, and how does everything look when you switch ???
- A He looks bloody to me. Looks lethal.
- C Look. Look. Look.
- A I am looking.
- C Look, you press it, it goes down.
- A Ooh.
- C And then all red stone breaks.
- A Are they gems? What are they?
- C They're red stone.
- A Oh it's just called red stone?
- C Yes.
- A Oh.
- C Look, this is red stone.
- A Have you dug it up then, it's just called....
- C Look, wait, this is a block of red stone.
- A A block of red stone.
- Q Has Noah ever tried to teach you to play on the Switch?
- A No.
- C She wouldn't get it.

Q So do you feel you've tried to show mum and she hasn't got it?

C What?

Q Have you tried to show her and she hasn't got it, is that what you say?

C No. I've never shown her.

Q You've not shown her.

A You have. You're just showing me now. No when you've shown me stuff. You've not asked me to play but I've sat alongside you and you've shown me stuff.

C Yeah, can we do....oh we can't do it because we're playing.....

A No I would die, I usually die.

Q Do you feel that you can get it or not?

A No, I do find myself quite slow. When I'm like....oh she's on Minecraft as well.

C Can't die, I'm in creative mode, this is why I'm flying.

A Oh OK.

C This is why I'm not going to die, you can't die on this, look.

A Oh I'd be the llama.

C Yeah, no, in the survival these llamas kill you, they spit at you.

A Oh.

Q Is it true?

C These skeletons kill you.

A I didn't know.

Q Do you feel it's important, do you try and take a....

A I do but sometimes I'm just like I can't hold up the fakeness of being an optimist. I do sometimes, I just think 'oh no I'm cooking dinner'.

Q Would anything help then, do you feel that's important, do you want to, is there something that you wish there was that...

A I mean I do here and there, but sometimes I'm like 'no, no, oh that's really good, you play it'. But I just....I don't know I think I'm just not really into computer games. I don't mind them playing it, I don't mind them on it, but I physically just do not want to....they

don't entertain me. I've never been into them, even as a child. My older brothers used to have all of that Playstation and all that, and my dad, and they even have them now, and so I was always around electronics. But they've never bothered me, I've always been sort of into dolls and sort of stuff, role play, do you know what I mean. But I've never really been...it doesn't appeal to me. I mean I like how they learn and how they play and all that, I find that really good. When she goes on that train one, I've done the train one and I'm like....and I do it for a little bit and I end up dying, a police officer comes behind me and grabs me, I'm like 'oh'. But she does it. When she goes on....

Q On the Subway Surfers do you mean?

A Yeah. And then when she does it she does it for quite a while and I'm like 'oh really good'. I end up dying.

Q So you feel that's actually quite a skill that she's built up there, she's learning something.

A Yeah because it's all to do with like motor skills and all that. But they have that, they're quite good at that anyway. But they've had that from a young age, with motor skills and stuff.

C Right, I just don't get that. Why is coal above ground?

A What's above ground?

C Coal.

A Oh coal? Oh maybe...

D Look, that's my old house.

A Did you make that?

D No, Noah.

A Are you going to make a room, Jacqueline?

D I already made a house.

A Oh you made one?

D Yeah it's a ??? house.

A It's a what house?

D Pulled house.

A A pulled house?

D Yeah this is it.

A You made that?

D Yeah.

A Well done.

D It don't have a living room.

A Oh why?

D Cos it just don't, cos it's only a little house.

A Oh. Well maybe a sofa. You've got a chair. I don't want a living room because it's a little house! That's good.

Q Let's get some important rooms into the house! Ah!

A Bed and kitchen, and a chair.

Q Well you can see her priorities though can't you, there's no time to relax, only to eat and sleep.

A Got to relax.

Q Very practical I feel that.

A Relaxing.

Q Oh that's sweet. Do you think these things are quite educational then in a way, or good for them in terms of building skills and knowledge and competence?

A Yeah, no completely, yeah I do think that.

Q Are there things you prefer more than others that they look at and do out of what the diet that they have?

A Yeah well some of the stuff they've looked at YouTube and I'm like 'why are you watching that?'

Q What sort of thing would you....

A Well some of the stuff they've watched..... Yeah like watching people unwrap toys, I'm like 'yeah?' Unless they're talking about the actual toy because, you know they're talking about the product and what it does and stuff. But sometimes it's just literally....actually that one.

Q Jacqueline.

A Watching like, I don't know, toys and they're unwrapping them and....they're weird.

Q Has she done that recently, and does she do it a lot?

A Not recently, but it's just one of those things where you just think 'that's pointless'. Some of the stuff they find fascinating. I think it's the surprise, the excitement ending of it, I don't know.

Q Yes it's interesting. If she was watching stuff to do with Barbie or what to do with Playmobil or anything like that...

A She likes Barbie, she wants Barbie for Christmas.

Q Right.

A Hey Jacqueline, you want Barbie for Christmas? Oooh.

Q Right. So if she was doing things to do with that, or watching that unboxing, how would that be.

A No she's not, no, she's ended up doing pointless stuff. So it's not like summat what she's into and so you understand, and so you'd get like 'oh I wonder why she's looking into that, because she's curious of what that box entails', but no it will be Kinder eggs or something, it was very random.

C Kinder eggs. Who would watch Kinder eggs.

D Kinder eggs!

Q Do you watch Kinder eggs? So tell me, I don't know much about Kinder eggs. What sort of things do they do on the films, Jacqueline?

A No, no, no that box, you'll break it. Yeah it would be a case of them unwrapping them and....

D One, two, in the box.

A No, Jacqueline! Stop misbehaving now.

Q Oh we must bring this to a close, I think it must be getting on for your teatime.

C You watch Dumbo the Barbie.

A Stop being rude. Jacqueline likes Barbie.

C No, I mean Kinder eggs.

A A load of people watch them, but yeah they are pointless.

C What is that?

A A red stone. It looks like a turtle.

C No it's a zombie.

A Oh OK.

C When did a zombie have an enchanted house.

Q Do the children have any physical toys that relate to their digital interests? And I suppose the Batman, gold Batman and stuff like that, that sort of thing?

A Yeah, that's probably it actually.

Q And their sort of dressing up?

A I'm just trying to think. Oh yeah dressing up with Jacqueline and all that.

Q Yeah, but physical toys, you know I don't know whether they've got any figures like a Batman figure or....

A Jacqueline's got a load of figures.

Q Oh yeah that's true.

A So obviously that covers a lot of things of princesses and all that.

Q Does Noah have dressing up that relates to his interests would you say?

A Noah's got police, builders. What other dressing up clothes have you got?

C Nothing.

A What dressing up clothes have you got? What dressing up clothes have you got – I'm talking to Noah?

C Ghostbusters.

A Oh yeah Ghostbusters.

Q Oh Ghostbusters, oh right, was that inspired by the film?

A You have police. Police.

C Yeah.

A Builders. Ghostbusters. What else have you got.

Q Lindsay, do you want them to put this away because Alex I'm sure would help.

A No that can play with that.

Q Are you sure? OK, leave it out. There's so many bits that's all.

A They can play with it while I'm cooking.

Q OK that's fine. OK we've talked about Leap Pad and things like that. And they don't have any toys that are enabled by the internet, that link to the internet or anything like that you said?

A No.

Q Sort of like an educational toy, like an educational laptop that you might do spelling and things on.

A Them tablet, them computers that she's got. That black one what used to be yours, and that pink one.

Q So have you ever done augmented reality, like Pokemon Go or anything like that?

A No.

C Pokemon Go.

A Oh don't get me started on that.

C Pokemon Battle Planet.

Q You don't approve of Pokemon Go?

A No, no I'm not saying I don't approve of it. Because again I don't...they've never made....we went to see the movie at the cinema.

Q Oh OK, right OK, the Pokemon Movie?

A The Pokemon Movie, which I actually enjoyed. I'm not into....

Q You sound surprised.

A Well yeah because obviously when you take them you're always watching the kiddy programmes, kiddy films. But, so some as an adult you're like 'oh I don't know' you obviously take them because they want to watch it. But that was one of the films where I was like 'mmm, I personally won't like it' but they were like 'oh I want to watch it'. And actually when I watched it I thought, 'oh that's fab isn't it'. So I was surprised by that. But yeah, no they're not interested in Pokemon really, but when I've heard about these adults chasing Pokemon on the maps and stuff, I think 'oh God, I haven't got time for that'.

Q Right OK.

A No, I'm not into that.

D Mum look what I've made.

A Oh yeah. Don't open it though it's a nail varnish thing.

Q And you don't have any like artificial intelligence assistants like Alexa or Siri or Google Home Hub or anything?

A No we haven't got house internet actually, but I do think that we need it.

Q You need....?

A I want internet.

D I know what Siri is.

Q You watch Siri?

D No, I know what Siri is.

Q Oh you know what Siri is? OK where have you seen Siri?

D It's him what talks on the iPad. They don't understand it.

A Who doesn't understand what?

D The man.

A Doesn't understand who?

D At first he always say the web thing.

Q Siri, you mean, says that?

D Yeah.

Q And he doesn't understand?

A Do you speak to it?

C Yeah.

A And what do you ask for?

D Some things.

C What's Siri?

D You know what Siri is.

C Oh! Oh.



- D Yes.
- A Why, is this at your dad's?
- D Yeah.
- C No, no, no do not....
- A I'm curious now.
- D It said ??? has a girlfriend.
- A Who has a girlfriend?
- Q You said that to Siri you mean?
- D Yeah.
- Q Did you say it or did your dad say it? Did you say that?
- D Yes.
- A So who's got a girlfriend?
- Q Do you remember what Siri said?
- D I said to Siri 'do you have a girlfriend'.
- A Oh you asked 'do you have a girlfriend'?
- Q What did Siri say?
- C What he said is 'it depends'.
- D I don't know what, I've forgot what he said.
- Q Do you remember, Noah?
- C No. I think he said 'I'm not telling you that answer'.
- Q Oh right, a bit coy was he, Siri?
- C And I said 'you are an idiot'.
- A Oh that's nice!
- Q Have you spoken to Siri, do you use Siri or anything, Noah?
- C Is he actually real?

A No it's like Google. So instead of like when you're on the internet doing a web search it's spoken something back to you and answered your questions.

C No, when I said he's an idiot he said 'yes I am'. He did actually.

A Because he has lots and lots of answers put into the machine.

D Do you know which one, princess it is? You have to choose which one, which name.

Q OK, is one of them Belle, is it like Belle and Cinderella?

D What?

Q Do you mean like...do they have names?

D Yes.

Q OK, do I get to know which names they are? Is one of them Belle?

D What?

Q Belle?

D No.

Q Cinderella?

D Yeah.

Q The blue one, I like her blue dress.

D That one, that one.

Q Oh very nice, super.

C Mum?

A Yeah babe.

C Look.

A I'm looking.

C Look, this is a lift. There we go.

Q Moana?

D What?

- Q Moana? Oh Frozen, and what's she called, Anna?
- D No, my mum likes this one, do not tell her.
- Q Oh can you give me a clue?
- A Is it....has it got red hair? Oh gosh, oh what's she called? It begins with A....
- Q I can't remember, I'm so sorry.
- A Oh is it Ariel?
- Q Ariel, thank you.
- A I love Ariel.
- Q I don't know my Disney princesses well enough, sorry.
- A Let's have look. These are what....
- D I really want the pink one on.
- A After tea I'll put you some nail varnish on. These are what Judy gave you in that bag.
- D Can I see what colours it actually is?
- Q Oh look.
- A Lilac. Purple.
- D Oooh. Let's see the pink one.
- A I'll put you some on after. You're not using these on your own though.
- D Can I have light one, light purple one on that one, and light pink on that one?
- Q Do they ever use any of the technology outside, perhaps your phone maybe or something I don't know? Don't take the iPad outdoors into the play house or something like that?
- A No. One, they've never asked or thought of it, two, I may say no actually, especially with Jacqueline 'don't drop it'. No they've never asked so it's never really been....never really thought of it.
- Q OK. And do you decide or do they decide what digital games and toys that they're going to use and what.....who decides which toys and games, digital toys and games ???
- A Oh they do that. As long as it's age appropriate ???
- Q And what do you think guides their taste, what sort of things.....

A I think it's friends.

Q Friends, yeah, school friends?

A Yeah. I think Noah obviously it's his friends. Jacqueline I think it's just a game. I think Noah has an impact on her decisions and likes, doing the princess thing....

Q I think that's a photo don't you with her, the bag, sorry.

A My friend gave it her ??? she's like 'oh ???

C This is what you do when you're stuck in a cave.

A That's nice, Jacqueline. Yeah I think Noah has an impact on Jacqueline and what she likes, because she....because it's a game what she's open to, you know what she sees.

Q Just one more. So apart from the LEGO bricks and everything, do you have other stuff to do with the LEGO brand, got the films and things or anything?

A Erm....no, no. We haven't got anything else LEGO-y have we?

Q That's fine. How about Playmobil, do you have anything else....I don't know what else they do actually, do they do stuff?

A Well, Playmobil, we have all types of Playmobil.

Q You've got the actual Playmobil, but are there other aspects of the brand at all?

A We've got DVDs, Playmobil DVDs.

Q Oh OK. What about the LEGO, same thing, have you got any LEGO DVDs?

A Yeah we've got some LEGO DVDs.

C No, we haven't.

A Yeah we have, we've got the Batman one. I think we've got about three upstairs.

C No, we haven't got LEGO.

A We have.

C We haven't.

A We have, haven't we?

Q You don't have any bags or things like that?

A I know, I'm just trying to think. No I don't think we have.

Q No, oh that's fine.

A No. Obviously we've got the LEGO bricks, we've got a big box upstairs of LEGO.