

- Q Julia Bishop (researcher)
Q2 Beth Nutbrown (researcher)
A Katie (mum)
B Matt (dad)
C Stephanie (8)
D Saskia (6)

Q Let's turn this on. I'll take a play tour and Saskia is leading the way. So do you want to tell us where we are and tell us a bit about it.

D We're in our bedroom.

Q Lovely. And what's special about us seeing the room now? Something's happened here recently hasn't it?

D Our bedroom has been painted a different colour. This was why. We wanted to paint it a bit lighter because it was a bit scratched and it had things all over it. We painted that wall that was pink, that was like pink but we painted it rose gold with sparkles on it.

Q Oh lovely. I can just see the sparkles now you point them out, that's gorgeous.

A You can see it when the lamp's on it, but it's only quite subtle. Oh are you wanting to show her that?

Q Oh what' that?

A This is an interactive doll.

D It's my ??? it's called ???. It can say different things.

Listens toy

C I think it's gone round again Saskia.

A Is that everything that he says?

C Yeah. It's just different things he says in the movie.

Q OK, so what movie is it from?

C He's from Toy Story.

Q Oh of course, yes.

C There's different things he says from one, two and three.

A And he came from Toy Story Land in Florida didn't he?

C Yeah.

A Mmm. He had to travel back in a suitcase. That was fun, fitting him in.

D We had to take his tail off to fit him in.

A And his tail comes off as well. I don't know why, what the purpose of that is.

C His tail comes off so you can fit him into like spaces.

Q Oh that's hysterical, I love that. Sorry Beth you need to come in so you can....you've got better device.

A What about yours Stephanie, is it Fluffy what's your interactive one?

C Yeah mine, I've got ???

Q How did you choose him Saskia, why did you decide on him?

D Because I wanted a big toy.

Q Yeah he is pretty big I think, yeah definitely.

D I didn't want Buzz because he was small.

C Yeah Buzz was quite small.

D He would have been better to fit in the suitcase, but I wanted the dinosaur.

Q OK.

C Was it Gavin who bought him, the dinosaur, or Brett maybe who bought it.

Q And were you able to sort of like press his button and try him out before?

D Yeah.

Q And what is it you like about him particularly, apart from the fact his tail comes off?

D The way he talks.

Q You like the way he talks? Do you ever copy the way he talks or anything like that?

D No.

Q And do you like those bits in the film? And what's his favourite....is it like the way he talks, or is it what he says?

D It's the way he talks and what he says.

Q Have you got a favourite thing he does?

D Yeah. Like sometimes when I press the button I move his arms to pretend he's talking.

Q Oh, so you're doing that to make it look like he's animated.

D And his legs can move.

Q Oh yes. And do you ever have him when you're watching the film of Toy Story, do you ever have them together?

D Yeah.

Q And when you hear him talk what does it make you think about?

D When I hear him talk it makes me think about watching Toy Story, Toy Story 4.

Q Toy Story 4. You've done that quite recently? Is that right?

A We went to see it.

C Yeah we went to see it at the cinema with one of mum's friends and their two kids.

Q Lovely. So this was in Sheffield?

C Yeah.

Q And it was before you went to Florida?

C Yeah.

Q Much before? Or a little before?

A A few weeks.

C A couple of days before.

Q And before you went to see Toy Story 4 did you know Toy Story 3, 2 and 1.

D Yeah.

C Yeah, we have them on CDs.

Q OK, and do you watch them quite frequently or....

C Not very often.

Q No.

D I like this.

Q Oh this looks good. So tell us about this book and why you like it.

D It's about a scared mouse. That's the cat he's scared of.

Q I can understand why, he looks fearsome.

C Yeah and by the end the mouse isn't scared of the cat any more and he's scaring the cat.

Q That sounds great.

C Because if you skip to the end page Saskia.....that's him scaring the car.

Q The mouse is saying 'Boo', that's amazing. What do you like about the book?

D I like about it so when the little mouse ties him up with his ball and string.

Q Does it make you laugh, or does it make you think 'hooray for the mouse'?

D It makes me think like the cat in a jail.

Q Yeah that's right. Do you think he deserves it?

D Yeah.

Q OK, so that's a bit satisfying isn't it.

D He likes eating mice.

Q He likes eating mice, so you think it's OK. And would you have that one as a bedtime story, do you use your books at all at bedtime? What's the routine, when do you read and when do you look at books?

C Yeah we normally read before bed.

D Sometimes I just like do some writing in my diary before bed.

Q Oh that's lovely, so you've got a little diary there as well.

D Mmm.

Q So do you think books are the best thing to have before bedtime, compared to say like tablets and phones, or indeed sort of toys like this that make noises?

C Yeah. Because normally books don't make noise, unless they've got speakers. Like we've got a Santa book where you press buttons and it speaks.

D It's this one.

C And like it says.....

Q Oh thank you – oh I can see what you mean immediately.

A It's a bit early for them.

Q2 And do you like books that have like speakers and make noises?

Both Yeah.

Q2 What do you like about them?

D That's it's not just about the sound that it makes, about the things it says in the books.

A We had a clear out and these are really old, they wouldn't get rid of them because they're really nice.

D This is a pop out book, it pops out and things.

Q So yeah we've talked a bit about voices, but are there tunes as well?

C Yeah there's songs that you can sing in books.

Q Oh fabulous. Do you like....well you obviously like music because you play the cornet, but do you like sort of the Disney tunes and the songs?

C Yeah.

D This is the one for Snow White. And then there's one, there's this one called.....Dopey.

Q That's right. So do you make mum sing to the songs, or do you sing?

C We sing to them.

Q You sing, oh.

A I think we all sing along to them don't we.

Q Yeah, sorry I didn't mean to bring....

C A lot of the toys we've got....

Q They're like what they call 'ear worms' aren't they, you can't stop singing them then.

C A lot of the toys we've got I think are linked to tech. So like this one, you can say stuff into it. So this is something I said a couple of weeks ago into it, and if you want to record something you press that button.

Q Do you want to give us a demonstration of it, I'll be fascinated to see how it works and the sorts of things you say.

C Yeah. You might have to be quiet though because it doesn't....you can't really see what you're saying if there's people talking in the background. So do you have an example of what I could say?

Q I don't really. Can you remember stuff that you've done with him that's worked well? What sort of things would you make....would it be funny things or....?

C Normally it would be things linked to what the unicorn would do like if it was real. Like 'magic is powerful' or something.

Q Right. Would it be something like 'show us your magic powers' or something like that?

C Yeah. Or it could be like 'I have magic powers'.

Q Great one, let's go with that.

C I think it's on 'I have magic powers'. And then you switch it...and then I'll see if it works. Oh I think it will have been sent to the app.

D It will be sent to your computer then.

C Yeah, and that will be sent to the app that I used to have and you can choose which one you want it to play.

Q2 Oh, so you choose on the app which sounds you want.

C Yeah.

Q2 Oh, so does it store all the different sounds that you've recorded for it?

C Yeah.

Q2 Wow, that's really cool.

Q And this was on the machine that you no longer have is it, the app?

C Yeah.

Q Does it play back on the unicorn? It seems as though it played back some of the ones from there, so he's got a bit of a memory?

C Yeah, the one that it's played is what I chose on my iPad before it died.

Q Oh I see, to be his like signature thing that he said?

C Yeah.

Q Or she, sorry I shouldn't say 'he' it might be a 'she'. That's fantastic. Did you choose this toy yourself?

C I didn't choose it myself but I won it on a raffle.

D At my dancing thing.

C She had a dancing competition and I think it was the best prize. It was £1 for a raffle ticket, and when I looked it up online that would have been £55.

Q How long ago was that?

C I think it was about a year ago.

D It was last year.

Q And some people say we get bored with tech toys more quickly, do you think there's anything true in that and do you ever get bored with some of these things?

C I think it really depends, because on tech toys you can download different things, like if you get bored with one thing you can delete it and download another thing.

Q Right, and do you know how to do that, can you do that yourself?

C Yes.

Q And so you'd have to do the download on what, the computer, and then link it to the toy? Or you can do it in the toy? How does that work?

C You can just go on the Store, I've got ??? Store, you type in the app you want and then you can download it.

Q Yes, so if you get bored you just look for a new one. And how do you find that new one?

C You look up. You can look up like for example Popular for Kids 9 to 10. Or Mystery Games, or Tapping Games, you can look up things you need to use your fingers for, or like guessing games.

Q And where have you got the ideas from for where those words come from, I mean is this something mum and dad have suggested you do, or have you made those up yourself?

C This is something. So you can either type in a certain app, or there's a bit where you can type and it comes up with a list of things that you might want, like things that you tap, or just mysteries, or guessing.

Q That's great. So once you've done that a few times does it give you ideas of more things to tap in do you find?

C Yeah.

D I sometimes get bored on my computer, because sometimes it goes dead and I'll go to play with my Lego. And then sometimes I get bored of watching it and I don't want to watch the TV, I would go and play with the Lego and play in our playroom.

A You take yourself off don't you?

Q Yeah mum said about that, I remember. And what do you think about Lego, do you ever get bored with Lego?

D No.

Q So what's the difference, what's going on there do you think?

D I don't know.

Q2 Brilliant. Have you ever had any other toys that connect to things like apps or things like that, or is like Fluffy like the first one?

C Not that I can remember.

A No, I think I was saying they had like the Leap Frog ones where you would read the books with them.

Q2 Oh yeah.

A They might have been a bit young to remember them. Do you remember the Leap Frog books and you had to like do it with the pen and it told you the words and what they all are?

D Mum, I remember for like what you just said, we went round to Ella's house and you got me that little computer with the Leap Frog games on it, and I haven't played it yet. Is it in the loft?

A I don't know. You've had them little Leap Frog, two little Leap Frog computers haven't you before you got your tablets.

Q So do the tablets ever come in here, are they allowed in this room?

C Yeah the....

A When you're playing sometimes, when you have your friends round, but not bedtime are they?

C No.

Q Are you in this room.....because you've got a separate playroom haven't you?

C Yeah it's next door to this room.

Q OK, so when you're in this room is it mainly to sleep and read books at night-time – and wake up obviously in a morning – but do you spend time in here otherwise?

C Sometimes but not as often as we're in that room playing.

D Sometimes I come in here. Like if I don't know what to do. Like I sometimes come in here to think what I could do.

Q So it's like a thinking space isn't it?

D Yeah.

Q Are there any other technological things in here, anything digital that we ought to know about do you think?

C I think the only thing that's really digital is this and just voice recorded books.

Q Yes.

A That's that really digital that you like that don't you, she had that when she was a baby, plays some nice soothing music. And again you get the little tune in your head.

Q2 And do the books with sounds ever go anywhere else or are they just in here? Do you read them mainly in here, or do you take them downstairs to read them, or into the playroom?

D We sometimes take them into the playroom to have a read.

Q2 Yeah? But is it mainly in here then that you'd be reading?

D Yeah. Sometimes I do some reading downstairs.

A Yeah, that's going to be like your....this is the extra space that we've got since we did the living room, because that used to have a chest of drawers there, so they want that as a little reading area don't you, we're going to buy some bean bags with the voucher money.

C We're going to have like a ??? area over there.

Q Oh that's lovely, great stuff.

D Mum said we're going to get like bean bag chairs. Not like shaped like a chair, like the ones that are shaped like a circle.

A Yeah, bean bag chairs.

Q Yeah, I know the ones, there's quite a variety of those, yeah I'm sure you'll find some brilliant ones. That's absolutely great. And just one more thing, I've heard about the toys on the bed, there's some story about toys on the bed and new toys or something isn't there? What's that about?

C Yeah. It's like favourite toys. Favourite toys are on the bed. But I think we have a lot, and once they're on the bed they don't normally come off.

Q OK. I'm really intrigued as to how you sleep in here.

D Sometimes we like get two cushions out and put them in front of our cushions we sleep on, and before bed, instead of reading, if you've got any like new teddy bears we'll introduce them to our other teddy bears.

Q That's such a lovely thing to do. Where did you think of that? How did that start happening?

D Stephanie's thought of it.

Q Did you Stephanie?

C Yeah.

Q And is there any particular reason for that, or you just had the idea one day, it popped into your head kind of thing, to introduce the toys. It's so polite. Do you quickly want to give us just the names of the all the toys and Beth could....because we're meant to film aren't we all the toys that you've got and photograph them, and we wondered if we could make a record and I could record what you're saying about each one. Would that be alright? If they have names just tell us who they are and we'll do a sweep down the end there and just go through them all, alright?

D This one doesn't have a name because I don't know what to call it.

C We actually have thirty something.

D 37.

Q Oh you have a number, that's amazing.

D 37.

Q 37?

C Yeah we counted.

Q Brilliant, OK so quickly take us through who we've got.

C So after you've seen it just put it on the floor or something.

D This is a teddy bear we don't have a name for yet, so I don't...

C Wariss Wally.

Q You're still deciding, OK fantastic. You don't need to put them on the floor because it means you've got to pick them up. Just pop them back where they were. And if there's any special story or anything let us know.

D This one is Bruce, and this one's like Rex he sometimes speaks.

C She got Bruce from Florida as well.

Q Oh my gosh!

D This is a doughnut, her name's Delish Doughnut. I have a name for this one too, her name's Rocky.

Q Rocky, that's a very good name.

D She can rock.

Q She's beautiful.

D This is Kayla.

C She got that when she was a baby.

D Yeah.

C I went to....when Saskia was born I went to a shop with dad and we got that cat from there.

D This is Sequina.

Q I love these names.

D This is Fluffy Junior Big 2, because this one's called Fluffy Junior so I decided to call this one Fluffy Junior Big 2 because that's the second junior we've used for this one.

Q Very good. Do you want to say about some of them as well Stephanie?

C Yeah, and then we can do the top ones. So this one I got with...because we used to have some big Peppa Pig teddy bears, I just wanted to keep this one as like to remember of when I used to play with it. And we got this from Peppa Pig Land.

Q Oh I didn't know you'd been to Peppa Pig Land.

C Yeah we've been a few times actually.

Q Great.

D We went with our friends called Cheryl and David. They moved to Australia because they were fed up of all the rain.

Q I can understand that!

C This one was mum's when she was younger and she passed it down. And it was in the loft for a couple of years and I went up into the loft and I brought it down and I said 'what's that', she said 'it's one of my old teddies, you can have it if you want'.

Q And that one's found a place on your bed too, lovely.

C Yeah, and we've got these two I got from my friend, she said she doesn't want them any more and they were just sat in her attic. And what you're supposed to do, if you want a certain one out, you push the other one into it and then you can get the certain one out.

Q That's amazing, two in one then.

C Yeah. And then we've got....this one's Greek, and this one was Candy.

D Candy Floss. And sometimes I pretend with them two, I shove one of them up there and pretend they're having a poo, like shooing out the other unicorn.

Q I love it, thank you for that.

C I got this one from a TY centre, I think it was from Toys R Us.

D Yeah this is the one I got from there too.

C It was the week before it closed and everyone was just having a mad rush into Toys R Us and just buying things, so I thought I'd just get a last minute thing from Toys R Us, and this is what I got.

D Because Toys R Us, it closed down because it wasn't very popular, people wasn't going in there.

Q Thank you, that's right. And what attracted you to him particularly?

C It's just everyone was just buying like memories of Toys R Us before it was cancelled and everyone was just going in and picking random stuff up. So I thought I'd pick up this. And it actually has got a set name on the tag, it says Aqua.

Q Oh Aqua, yeah I can see why he's called Aqua. Tell me, do you mind me popping in here, I would like to know about these two, I think I might recognise these two.

C Yeah. So this one, I think you know the name already, Mickey, we got from our holiday a couple of months ago in Florida. And Minnie we've had for quite a while, we bought it around the time I was born.

Q Oh gosh, oh right, so Minnie's quite a bit older and now Mickey has come to join her.

D It's been Stephanie's since how old she is now, and we've still had it....Stephanie still had it when I was born.

Q What I'm really noticing is like there's almost like a different story about every single toy, you've got something to tell us about where it came from, or whose it was and how you got it, it's really fascinating. Do you just have them on your beds or do you actually play with them and pretend things sometimes?

C Yes.

D Sometimes we pretend to play with them. Like me and Stephanie have been doing something like pretending to give the teddy bears their flu shot.

Q Sorry, say that again?

D It's like me and Stephanie have been pretending that the teddy bears have been having a flu shot.

Q Oh, so what does that entail, how do you....do you like inject stuff?

C We have like a tool box.

D Yeah, it's in the playroom.

C We can get it when we go in there.

Q Yeah let's go in then. Thank you so much.

C I actually got this one from a school....I got these, that one...that one....and that one, from school trips, these five are from school trips.

D Stephanie got this one from ??? club from school.

C No I didn't.

D Yes you did.

C No I didn't.

D I remember you said you did.

C No I didn't.

Q You seem to have lots of memories attached to these toys I would say.

C I got this one actually from a disco, from a disco, and it was a celebration of having a certain amount of years in Girl Guiding.

Q Oh right, oh very good. I've just got to ask about the ones over here.

C This if from Girl Guiding as well. That was when I got my enrolling.

Q Oh fabulous.

C And then these two came together.

Q Are they like one each, does one belong to Saskia?

C Yeah.

D Mine's called Brownie and I can't remember what the other one is.

C Beigy.

Q Do you ever pretend your toys are alive, that you could talk to them and do stuff?

Both Yeah.

Q So you know when they're like the electronic ones that actually do talk, is there any difference, does that help you to imagine do you think that they're alive, or does it take away and you want to use your imagination more?

D Like Bruce, when he talks, I like the bit when he says 'I've been saving....I haven't been eating any fish for 3 weeks'.

C He says it in the movie as well, 'it's been 3 weeks since my last fish'.

Q And do you like toys that say things that make you laugh?

C Yeah.

Q Do you think laughing is good with toys that speak?

C Mmm.

D These two are what we got from LEGOland. This one's called Puppa Sway....

C Which is actually what it said on the tag.

D Yeah. And that one's Fluffy.

C Junior.

Q Another junior.

Q2 And do you like it when toys that speak say things that they said in the film?

C Yeah. And things like sometimes if you get a toy that says things from a film you're waiting to see if they say anything that actually happens.

Q2 Ah, so is it good to play through them and see if they say something different, or if they actually repeat the film?

D This is the teddy bear Charlie [the dog] chewed her eye out.

C Mum made an eye patch for it.

A He was actually....this teddy bear Rainbow Llama but then Charlie sneaked in here.

D She was an amazing llama.

Q Poor Rainbow Llama.

C Mum said she thought it was.....

Q So were you upset when Charlie did that?

C She didn't find out till after school. Someone left the baby gate open and he ran up here and....

D You know like it wasn't after school, it was when I got home from Rainbows the gate was open and he ran into our room because the door was open. He opened our ???, dad didn't notice, and he bit the eye out.

A It's not the first time he's done it is it?

Q No, oh gosh ??? the gate at the bottom of the stairs.

D He bit her eyes out, he bit both of her eyes out.

C I just wanted to show you how old and dusty this is.

Q Oh!

C That's how it came. And then it's got this dusty.

Q That's wonderful, thank you ever so much, it's been fascinating. Did we want to move into the room next door, did you want to show us that now?

Both Yeah.

Q Thank you ever so much.

C We've got a new thing in the room.

Q Oh. You go first and I'll bring the....

C It takes up most of the space. Do you want me to get it?

Q Thanks yeah, we'll just leave that on and take it into the other room.

A Look at that.

C This was built recently.

Q2 Wow, how did you build it?

D We got some bamboo sticks from our grandad's house and we got one of these from our mum's bed, and dad taped it around here so it would stay on.

Q2 Wow. And whose idea was it?

D Dad's.

C Yeah it was dad's idea.

Q Oh that's interesting. So did he show you how to build it with stuff, and was it a team effort?

C Yeah. And dad's got three sticks, I mean three bamboo sticks from our grandad's house, because nannan and grandad like to grow lots of things, like they grow...

D Yeah, they have lots of plants in their garden.

Q Do they?

C They grow green beans, they grow tomatoes, they grow loads of flowers as well.

A And pod peas.

Q Yes that's why they'll need these, because those are quite tall plants aren't they?

C Yeah bamboo. This is a teepee.

D Tonight we're going to sleep in it. Because mum said that ??? night we could....

A They tried it last week, then they got back in their own bed, so I don't think it....

D Because I didn't want to sleep in it because I didn't have my favourite teddy bear with me.

C And Saskia said she didn't want to sleep by herself because she was too scared.

D I don't like sleeping by myself.

Q So we're interested, I mean when you do this kind of play do you think you need any technology type stuff, or would you like bring music or take photographs or do anything like that. Or do you just think it's good to keep it separate and just play in the tent, the teepee.

C Yeah sometimes we bring music or do drawing or something.

Q And when you've been playing with this particular one do you ever think about....do you imagine, have you seen teepees in films or anything like that, can you imagine?

C Yeah I think Saskia got the idea from this TV show she watches.

Q Oh what was that?

C It's Alvin and the Chipmunks.

Q Oh right, yes.

C It's someone and the Chipmunks, I'm not sure who though.

Q No, we could ask her. And do you like to play with things like this as well Stephanie?

C Yeah.

Q What else have you got in here, there's loads of toys, shall we have a quick look round, what are the main things you've got here?

C Round there we've got like a Barbie box, and it's from....mum's old doll boxes. I can bring it round.

Q2 Oh there are lots of Barbies.

Q Yeah, that's a beautiful big box.

C It was....so I think if you want to get all of them in – because you can open all the sides, all the sides come down.

Q And did you play with Barbies yourself, you know is there a link here between your play or anything similar here?

A I don't think so. I don't remember having Barbies.

C This was one of your boxes though mum.

Q Oh it's the box that came.

A Just a storage box, yeah. Fits lots of Barbies in. That's one of those what you buy on holiday ???

Time 35:00

D No we bought it....we didn't buy it on holiday.

A Didn't we?

D No.

C No we didn't buy that one.

A Oh no, no I think the pink one, didn't we have a pink one?

C It was from my Auntie.

Q How does it work?

C I don't know. It's Saskia's.

Q Saskia, how do you switch it on and off and things like that?

D I ???

Q Oh OK. So that's another one that makes a noise. So you know when we said about it's quite good when things sort of speak and stuff, do you like doing the voices for things that don't have any voice on them?

C Yeah.

Q And how do you do that? Would you do it for a Barbie doll, is that something you could make her speak?

D We do it like for a Barbie doll and....this does talk, but I don't know if it still works. It's a Dora doll.

Q It's a Dora doll, so what language is she speaking there?

D She's Spanish Dora.

C Yeah, I think it's because Dora's originally supposed to be Spanish.

Q How do you feel about her speaking in Spanish?

C It helps you learn more Spanish.

Q Does it? Have you ever tried using some of the phrases that she has taught you? Have you ever picked up any Spanish from that, or would you say it's just for fun?

D Just for....

C The toy is just for fun, but sometimes I ask people questions and they say....so if you press the button, so you can say different phrases, and sometimes if I don't know what it means people say 'what does this phrase mean', I just go 'I don't know'.

Q Oh right. Can you say anything that she says, have you ever tried to speak those....?

C I have tried some but I don't really understand it any more.

Q No. Would you try it more if you knew what it meant do you think?

C Yeah.

D We have got the dog for Dora but we haven't got the monkey for her.

Q Oh right, yes.

D The monkey.

Q And tell me how you know about Dora. All I know is she's called Dora the Explorer. Is there a TV programme?

C Yeah, there is a movie that's come out.

Q Oh there's a movie, of course there's a movie yeah. OK, so is the movie quite recent?

C I've never watched it. It is quite recent.

D I used to have a backpack that went with Dora, but one day when I wanted to play with it I didn't know where it had gone.

Q2 Is that like the magic backpack thing that Dora has?

A Yeah it used to say 'backpack'.

Q2 Oh the backpack used to say it?

A Yeah.

Q And did you ever go exploring with the backpack on, I've got to ask you that question.

C No, you could open it and put stuff in it.

D Sometimes I'd take it with me....erm.....there, like anywhere. Like sometimes I'd take it to the park with me. And like I put some things in there that I wanted to take. Like if there was a drink that fitted in it, and then I would put it in there to like take to the park with me.

Q So it was about getting things that were about the right size to get in the Dora backpack.

D Yeah.

Q How big was it actually Saskia, can you show me with your hands?

C About that big.

Q Is Stephanie right?

D It was about this big.

Q OK, yeah not too big then, so everything had to fit inside. And would you say you were a fan of Dora the Explorer, did you like watching any of the programmes?

D I did like Dora before when I was little.

Q Did you? But not now – is that right?

D I still do like it now but I haven't seen the movie for a long time.

A They haven't watched the television for a long time either have you?

Q No.

D I've got two of these. This one's from my [girl's name] friend's party, and this is from my friend [boy's name] and his party. They had their party on the same day because their birthday's on the same day.

C And they're both called [boy's name].

A You should tell Julia about your kitchen, because that's a little bit interactive isn't it what you can do with it.

Q Oh is it? I can see some surprise dolls too, I'll come to those in a second.

D So like you can fill this with water. You can play with that now.

A Shall I put a little bit in here?

D I can do it.

Q2 I have to ask, is this a doll from Frozen by any chance?

C Yeah it's Anna.

Q2 Anna, that's it isn't it, yeah. And have you seen Frozen?

C Yeah.

Q2 What do you think about Frozen?

C It's quite good. I've heard there's a Frozen 2 now though.

A It's coming out soon isn't it?

Q Is it? Yes.

Q2 Do you like to have kind of dolls and toys from films, because you've got Rex and Bruce as well.

C Yeah.

A We used to have a lot more of those toddler dolls didn't we, I think they were that big, we gave some away. We had some like Cinderella, we had Anna and Elsa didn't we? They take up a lot of room.

Q And what made you keep Anna?

C I think it's just Saskia wanted to keep the Anna one. Because I got them for my third? I got them for my third. I actually have.....

Q I'm sorry, there are so many things to watch at the same time here. Go ahead Saskia....thank you Stephanie.

A It's meant to be a realistic gobbling sound.

Q It's absolutely great.

D So we use these, there's a hot chocolate.

A That's the clapping tune isn't it?

D Yeah, you can pretend like you're getting coffee or hot chocolate, milk or a cup of tea.

Q It looks good enough to be real, that.

A The ice machine. I don't know if there's any ice in there right now.

Q Have you got anything like this for real in your kitchen, does it match anything that you have in the house already?

A No. My dad's got a posh one that you can get water out of hasn't he, but we haven't. They like doing that when they go to his house.

D So you can fill it up with ice. It has to ??? some ice.

A They don't all fit do they?

Q So how do you come to have this, was it a present, is it a joint thing, or is it particularly yours?

D It was a birthday present.

Q For you Saskia?

D Yes.

Q Which birthday?

D My sixth.

A So it's fairly new. Got it in January when you were 6 didn't you. We did have a smaller version which was Stephanie's first kitchen and that had been played with over the years....

D Until I was born.

Agot a bit broken and tired. So we upgraded to that.

D Like I started playing with it and then mum said that I could get this new one, and I wanted this one.

A It used to be in the conservatory didn't it, the other one.

Q Do you remember much about Stephanie's one compared to this one?

D Yeah.

A It was a bit smaller wasn't it, can you remember it Stephanie?

C Yeah.

A It was a lot smaller, it didn't have....

D I can remember what it looks like but I don't remember what it could do. Like ??? could do anything.

A No it didn't have the things that this one can do, but it was a similar shape and it had the oven thing which I like. Because that oven door, you can just put all the plastic food in there out of the way – and out of Charlie's way, because that's something else that he likes.

Q And so did you choose this for her?

A I think she said she wanted a kitchen for her birthday, and we did like the older one, and then this was like the new improved one.

Q Do you sort of research toys before you buy them a little bit, would you have compared different ones and what they did?

A Yeah. We were either going to go for that one or like a wooden one, so like wooden kitchens.

C But Charlie would eat it.

Q Are you involved in any of these sorts of decision Stephanie, do you ever act as adviser to mum about what would be a good thing to buy?

C Not normally. This actually, this was bought by Saskia and we gave all ??? dolls away when I was 5 or 6. And I had an Anna with a proper dress, with that ball dress, the blue one I think it is.

A Yeah, we have to have a clear out sometimes or you wouldn't be able to get in here would you, because once Christmas and birthdays have been, in the hall and all round are the toys.

Q So how do you decide what stays and what goes?

C It's like 'do we play with it'.

A And we have to have a teddy clear out every now and then as well. A lot of the time when it's like school fair ??? donations.

C Yeah, the last teddy clear out we had was about a month ago and we only cleared one teddy!

Q That must have been a hard one. So how do you feel about clearing out and giving away toys, and dolls particularly? I mean is it harder to give away a teddy or a doll, something that's a bit like a person, compared to say a kitchen or....I don't know.

C Yeah I think it's a lot harder.

Q Why? Why is that do you think, what's all about that?

C It's just it makes you feel, like once you get them you play with it so often it makes you feel like it's actually a real person and you don't really want to give it away.

Q That's interesting. So it's almost like you know them a bit.

C Yeah.

Q That's really interesting. This is great, a fantastic kitchen, thank you for showing us that. I just wondered, when you're playing with the kitchen – just to finish off the kitchen conversation Saskia – you know when you're playing it, it's difficult to remember, I think I sort of felt certain things, I think I sort of felt when I was playing things like that, I think I felt really grown up and stuff like that. I felt like I was like my mum doing things. Do you ever imagine that you're like in charge of the family and cooking and things like that?

D Sometimes when I'm playing with my kitchen I feel like I'm a grown up and I'm a chef working in a place.

Q Oh, so a chef, that's great. So are you producing amazing dishes and things like that? Is it like a restaurant then?

D Mmm. It's actually the food from our old kitchen to go with this one.

Q Ah, so this is the kind of thing you might serve up in your restaurant.

D This is one of the things that we saved, the turkey.

C Turkey, can we buy a turkey for Thanksgiving.

Q Thanksgiving, that's right.

C And then when I invite the ???

Q So do you ever imagine customers, anything like that in your restaurant?

D Mmm. I sometimes like pretend to get some of our big teddies, and I get some chairs from downstairs and bring them up here with a table. And I pretend that they're like coming into the restaurant to have some food.

Q That's great. And so what happens next? So they come in, and do you sit them down at their table?

D Mmm.

Q And then what happens next, how does that go from there?

D I ask them what they want for dinner.

C Yeah we have made a menu before.

Q Oh, so you've been involved too. Is that like a written menu that you've got on the table? You actually make a menu do you?

C Yes.

Q Can you tell me an example of something that might have been on the menu in your restaurant?

D A turkey.

Q Of course. A turkey leg.

C Salad.

Q A salad.

D Some meat.

Q Ah, so is it based on the things that are in....that you've got?

D An egg – Charlie bit it.

Q A bitten egg! OK, and then what happens?

D One crisp.

Q Oh, just one crisp?

D And a sausage.

Q Excellent. So these are all the sorts of food because that's what you've got, that makes complete sense. And then what happens, do you have to cook anything after that, or....

D Then we like ask them what they want for their dessert. These are all the things that you can have for the desserts. A bun, a smaller bun, a doughnut, a cake, a slice of cake, and a chocolate brownie.

Q Ooh, I think I know what I would choose.

D A chocolate brownie?

Q How did you know that?! Fantastic. And do you ever do this with mum or dad, are they ever involved in the game, do they ever come to the restaurant and choose stuff?

A You make us food sometimes don't you?

D Mmm.

Q Yeah. Does that happen in this room, or does that more happen like downstairs in the living room?

D Sometimes we like go downstairs and ask them what they want. And then we come back upstairs and cook the things they want.

A The old kitchen actually started off in the living room when Stephanie was little, and then it went into the conservatory, and then brought up here because of doggo really because he will just chew everything on it.

C What did we get first, dog or kitchen?

A The kitchen first, then Charlie, then another kitchen. So we used to have a lot more toys in the living room as well, then we kind of just cleared everything out and that's why we've got a lot in here and in the conservatory as well.

Q And do you two just mainly play in here with each other, or is it one at a time? How does it work?

C Normally Saskia plays up here by herself.

Q Oh OK. And what are you doing if she's doing that, are you in another place playing or....

C I'm either downstairs like watching the TV or something, or I'm in our room doing something.

Q And do you feel that your play has changed a bit? Probably you can remember when you were Saskia's age, do you feel that you play in a different way sometimes to Saskia?

C Yes sometimes.

D How many slices?

C One.

Q I don't want to go, it's such a lovely room.

D Do you want anything else?

Q Do you ever....and so you said you might have music, or do you ever use the tablet or anything up here, or bring your games into your ???

C Yeah sometimes we bring the tablet up here and we play music while we're like colouring in the teepee or something.

Q OK yes. And is there a reason for doing that rather than just having it quiet?

C I think it just makes it more relaxing.

Q OK. So what sort of music would you choose if you did that?

C We'd just choose like....just put some relaxing music on. Like sometimes the relaxing music doesn't have any words and that makes it more soothing.

Q Yeah. And where would you get that music from, is it a particular app or something you'd find it on?

C No, we'll just search it up on like Google, or like Microsoft Edge.

A Microsoft.

Q Right, yes. And do you do that by typing it in again, or do you ever use the voice?

C Sometimes we use the voice.

Q How would you search it up, what words would you use?

C We would just use....because I've got Google, it's like an Alexa on Google so it answers back. Like you can say 'Google, can I play a game' or 'Google, let's chat about what happened today'.

Q Oh that's lovely. So you say that to your Google. Is this on the tablet?

C Yeah.

Q That's great.

C And it will give you actual answers to the questions.

Q Lovely. Oh wow. What sort of things does....is it Alexa or is it another person as it were?

C It's a bit like Alexa and Siri, but it's just Google.

Q OK.

C Yeah it's basically....because Alexa and Siri are basically the same thing, that's basically Google as well.

Q What sort of things does it say then – it, she – I don't know how to refer to the Google voice. What sort of things does Google say?

C It will chat to you, but if you ask a question it will take you to a website and it will sort of either answer it because it's not on a website, or like say 'I don't know, I'll try and figure it out', or it will take you to the website that will have it.

Q Oh that's fascinating. Do you do that a lot, or just when you're in the mood?

C Not very often. Sometimes I'll go in the morning and say 'Google what will the weather be like today' and it will just say what I need to wear and stuff. Or you can just ask the Alexa, 'is it going to be raining today?'

Q And where do you keep that, your tablets, where does that tend to live?

C It's normally in the living room when I'm playing on it. But when it's charging it's in the kitchen.

Q So you'd go down to the tablet down there in the living room and you might have this conversation. And can I just ask you how you learnt to kind of talk with Google? Because that's not something that probably most of us have grown up with because that's quite a new thing isn't it?

C Yeah. Google has a voice recogniser, so when you open Google, just open the Google message – I can't remember what it's called, it has got a name but I can't remember – anyway, so when you've downloaded it and opened it, it does, you can get it up on Google, you have this little link in the corner saying 'would you like to cancel it to be another type of Google'. And when you go on to it it will say 'please say your name three times', so it will record your voice so then it will know your voice and your name. So like when you open it it will, like say if it's not your voice, 'invalid voice recording' or 'hello Stephanie, how are you doing today?'

Q I'm just intrigued. I mean had you done that before, had you seen someone else do it, or did mum and dad help you? How did you get that all set up?

C I was just looking on Microsoft Store and I was just looking at some apps that were popular and that came up.

Q Oh gosh. Do you have to ask mum or dad about downloading apps like that? How does it work?

C Most apps I can just download by myself, but some apps they have a parental warning and they say 'ask before you download them'.

Q And have you shown that to mum and dad, do they know obviously you use it and stuff like that?

C Yeah.

Q And what's the best conversation you've ever had with Google do you think?

C I think it's when we were talking about something funny that had happened at school, and she said about....she said... Eden, she thought someone called....someone Gaby, Gaby something, she's in my school, she goes to my school and I know who she is.

Q Gosh. Did you expect Google to say that?

C No, not at the time, no.

Q And is it funny, like is it fun hearing what Google will say, because you know that Google is actually a computer and an app and stuff.

C Yes.

Q Do you ever try and have a bit of fun with Google, have you asked anything, well mischievous things of Google.

C Yeah sometimes.

Q What's the funniest thing you've made her say, or the naughtiest thing, or the cheekiest thing do you think? Have you got a favourite? Have you got a thing that you did that made you really laugh that you can remember now?

C How old are you?

Q Brilliant question. What did she say? Can you remember?

C She said 'I am.....2.....no, 187'

Q And does that just make you laugh, or do you carry on the conversation and say 'I think you're telling fibs' or something like that, I don't know, what would you say to it?

C Yeah, we will carry on the conversation and like 'you're not', 'you're not 187'.

Q Oh well that's great. Well do you know, I'm just thinking, if you wanted to do that and use the GoPro, would that be possible do you think?

Q2 Yeah. Or I can set up my Google if you want and then see if it recognises your voice after I've woken her up. Sometimes that's worked for me. Do you want me to do that? Do you want to try it?

C Yeah.

Q2 If I say 'OK Google' and then she's going to be listening. What would you like to ask her? 'OK Google'....

C How old are you?

Google 'Well I've heard that laughing makes you young and I love jokes, but I also love facts, I'm not sure what that says about my age'.

Q2 Does this look like the Google that you've used, like 'Hey Google'?

C Yeah.

A Yeah it's the same voice isn't it?

Q Do you imagine what she looks like when you talk to her, have you got a picture of her in your head?

C Not really, no.

Q What do you call her? Do you have a name for her?

C No.

Q Oh. Thank you so much, that's so interesting. We must probably bring it to a close in a minute, we've been with you for quite a long time and we're aware it's teatime. It's been really interesting. Is there anything we should have asked you do you think, because you know what we're interested in now, you know the sorts of questions we ask. Are there any questions you think we should have asked you that we haven't, or anything that you'd like to show us that you've not had a chance to yet?

C Not really, no.

Q Where do you think we should....actually we've done two rooms and there are some downstairs rooms, is there anywhere that's important for us to pick up on next time we visit?

C Maybe we can go in the conservatory because we have a lot of games in there.

Q Sounds good to me. And are there places where you might play with mum and dad sometimes, do they play games of any type?

C Sometimes mum does, but dad doesn't very often.

A Board games are usually in the living room aren't they?

C Yeah, or the conservatory.

A Or the conservatory. It's too cold for the conservatory now because it's not heated in there.

Q I see, it makes a difference doesn't it?

A So we all played....

Q Oh you look like you're going to have a lovely relaxing time in there.

AMonopoly on Sunday weren't it.

Q2 Is this when you were all together?

A Yeah Sunday's mainly what we do ??? isn't it when I'm doing the dinner. I was the first one out.

Q Oh no! Were you the winner?

A Saskia was the winner. Stephanie's normally the winner.

Q That's great. Is it the classic Monopoly, or is it the Sheffield version?

A It's the Junior.

C We have got Sheffield though.

A We bought the Sheffield one.

Q Yes I've never seen that, I've only heard about it.

A It's still a bit old and it takes too long.

Q Yes it does take a long time that game doesn't it, yeah. And how do you feel about winning and how do you feel about losing in that game – does it matter to you, do you get competitive or upset, or is it just a game?

C I can remember I have got upset before if I've lost.

Q That's a very honest answer, I think I would be the same. There's always that slight deflated feeling isn't it, like 'hmm, if only I'd won', yeah.

A But you have won the most.

Q So you're good at that game would you say?

C Yeah. When we play Ludo, when my grandad plays Ludo with us, he's got a talent of getting ones [on the dice]. Yeah, like 70% or 80% of the time he'll always roll a one.

Q And what do you all do when that happens yet again? Do you laugh?

C Not normally because we're used to it because it happens all the time. Like he'll roll at least 7 ones every game.

Q Right, oh my goodness. Does he ever say anything like 'he's jinxed' or something like that? How do you feel when you're playing all together in a family, is that a different feeling from playing when you're just here on your own, or with Saskia?

C Hmm, yeah.

Q What do you think about grown-ups playing?

C I think it's just because I'm normally playing with Saskia it's just someone different to play with.

Q Is there lots of laughing when you're playing with grown-ups would you say?

C Sometimes.

Q Sometimes, yeah. Is there talking, or does everyone get really into the game and just play the game?

C Yeah, like when we're playing Monopoly everyone's really concentrating on the game.

Q That's very interesting. You have been incredible and we've learnt so much, thank you ever so much for your patience with all our questions.