

September 2022



## Early Years news, advice and guidance for Square Mile families and settings

### Hello...

Welcome to our monthly newsletter.

Our aim is to share regular local and national Information for families in the city. If you would like to find out anything further on any items or like more advice or information, please contact the Family Information Service.

020 7332 1002

[EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

[www.fyi.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.fyi.cityoflondon.gov.uk)

### Makaton

Talking does not just involve speaking. Watch someone talking, they will also be using gestures, facial expression, eye contact and body language. All this is communication. Makaton uses speech with signs (gestures) and symbols (pictures) to help people communicate. Would you like to learn some useful signs to use with your child?

As part of our Coltale programme (City of London Talks and Listens Enthusiastically) we post Makaton videos every Wednesday on our social media platforms. Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter or search [#ColtalesTopTips](#)

To find out more about Makaton, please visit their website by clicking [here](#).

### Messy Play

Shoe Lane library runs messy play sessions on the last Thursday of the month, 10.30 – 11.30 am. Remember to wear old clothes or take a change with you. Next session is September 29th . Follow [@shoelanelib](#) for more information.

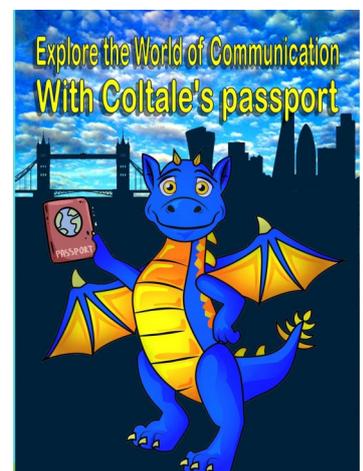


### Coltale's Passport is available!

Have you picked up a COLTALE passport from City libraries yet?

Use your Coltale passport to help improve your child's communication skills by discovering and talking about exciting sites in the City of London

Follow [@SqMileFamilies](#) for more Information. **There are prizes to be won!**



# Coltale Clue No. 1

Here's our first clue for Coltale's passport. Have you found the feasting animals in Paternoster Square? Tweet [@SqMileFamilies](https://twitter.com/SqMileFamilies) and let us know!



**“Reading aloud with children is known to be the single most important activity for building the knowledge and skills they will eventually require for learning to read.”**

– MARILYN JAGER ADAMS

## Are you worried about the Cost of living?

**CityAdvice** Autumn pop-up event

Tuesday 13th September, 10:30am - 12:30pm  
Golden Lane Community Centre

Cost of living top tips and free, expert advice on:

- ✓ welfare benefits
- ✓ employment rights
- ✓ debt and money
- ✓ housing
- ✓ community care and family
- ✓ consumer rights

Talks and one-to-one advice slots, no appointment necessary. Information guides available.

Go to [www.toynbeehall.org.uk/cityadvice](http://www.toynbeehall.org.uk/cityadvice) for more information about City Advice



## Talking about pictures

You don't always need to read the words in books. Looking at and talking about picture books is a great way to encourage your child to enjoy stories. If you speak another language at home, talk about the pictures and story in your own language.

Singing songs and sharing books in is a fantastic way to support your children's development.

Why not download a time together leaflet from the national literacy trust in your home language.

[Time together - support for multilingual families | National Literacy Trust](#)

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