

Q Emilie Scholey (researcher)
A Woman with daughter (aged 5)

A Okay.

Q Brilliant. Okay. So, the first question is how does technology feature in your child's play? Does your child like to play with particular devices at the moment? Any apps or toys? And if so, how? Including things like when, where, who with, how often, those kinds of things. Is that okay?

A Yes. I've got an iPad. She doesn't have her own pad or tablet or anything, but she uses my iPad generally. And she's got various apps that she'll play or watch things on. There's a couple of apps. The school have recommended one recently about phonics, things like learning phonics.

Those kinds of apps. And she'll watch the YouTube Kids app. My husband's got a Samsung tablet, and I think it's got a Samsung kids mode on it as well. So, there's a few games on there that she'll play. There's a hairdressing game, and just various ones like that, really, aimed for children her age.

Q Could you go into a bit more detail about those? Because I'm really interested in apps. So, on your husband's Samsung pad, the hairdressing game, how does she play that and how does she interact with that then?

A She plays it probably a couple of times a week. She does tend to go on the tablet every day at some point, normally she's in from school. For a little bit. So, she might play that particular game a couple of times a week. So, what she'll do, she'll show and bring it to me, and she'll say, look at what I'm doing.

Look at the hairstyle I'm doing. Look at the different colours you can do. She particularly likes changing the colour of the hair. And then, you can blow dry it into a certain style or use different techniques on it to either cut the hair or make it really big. So, she likes to show you what she's doing on it.

Q Fantastic.

A And then she'll say, do you want a go mummy? And I'll maybe have a go at trying to do a style as well. And then, I think you can take a picture at the end, when you've done the style. So, she likes to look back on ones that she's done.

Q And how long will she be on that for then?

A She's probably on that about 15, 20 minutes I would say, that particular one.

Q So, did you say iPad?

A Yes.

Q What does she watch on YouTube Kids?

A CraftyGirls is one that she likes. It's three American sisters who make slime and do challenges and things like that. She'll watch that. She likes one called Blippi.

Again, they're all quite American I think, actually.

Q I know Blippi, we've got Blippi. It's quite popular, isn't he?

A I'd never heard of him before, but yes. What else does she do? What's it called now? Fizzy Toy Show I think is one of them as well, where they open up toys. They're called blind bag things, where they'll open them up and they'll see what they get from them. So, she'll watch a variety of stuff. People making the slime or doing challenges, or watching them open toys really.

Q Why do you think she likes those things? How does she react to those things?

A She just relaxes. As adults, sometimes you just watch telly to zone out a little bit, don't you?

Q Yes.

A And I think sometimes whether they need a little bit of that as well.

Q Yes, definitely.

A It's quite boring at school, isn't it?

Q Yes.

A But I think she just finds it relaxing. I think she finds it funny. Sometimes I hear her laughing at things that they've done. I've noticed that she tries to copy them a little bit as well. So, she gets a toy. She'll talk in a manner as if she's opening it up as they do on YouTube as well.

Q Does she try to do with that her hair as well? Does she try out things on your hair or herself?

A I don't think necessarily related to that app. I think she likes to play. She does like to play that. She just likes to try different hairstyles. It's not often in association with playing that particular game I would say. I think it would be at different times she would do that. But she definitely likes playing hairdressers and putting thing in her own hair. And then, try and do my hair in a certain way. I would say it's probably done at a different time. So, after playing that particular game.

Q And does she play when watching television? And if so, how?

A You mean with the TV in the background?

Q Yes.

A Normally, she would play with physical toys if something else is in the background. But her attention will be on one thing. So, she wouldn't dip and out of, say, watching a programme while doing something like that. She'd be very much either watching a programme, or she'd be playing a game.

Q So, one or the other.

A Yes. She does give her attention to whatever she's doing.

Q And does she engage with any apps and online sites? I think you mentioned

already YouTube. CBeebies? Anything like that?

A Yes, we've got the CBeebies app. So, she'll play that. And I think there's that Playtime Island app as well. So, she likes that. She likes the games on that. There's a Swashbuckle game that she particularly likes.

Q And what does that do? Sorry, I don't know that one very well.

A Swashbuckle, on CBeebies.

Q Can you tell me a bit more about that? Sorry.

A It's almost like a board game. So, you roll the dice and then you would move on a few spaces. And there's a few challenges you have to do to try and beat these pirates. So, she has to roll the dice and then move along. And then, there's little games where they might have to find the hidden jewels. And then, at the end, if you've won, if you've got all the jewels back, then the pirate ends up having to walk the plank. So, she enjoys that, because there's a TV programme of that as well that she enjoys.

There's a dinosaur one on the app as well, which is linked to a dinosaur programme on CBeebies, where you have to feed the dinosaur, wash it, play with it. So, she likes that one on it as well. I'm trying to think what other ones. There's a Storytime CBeebies app as well, which she quite likes, because she can now read a lot better. Because before, it could read to you, so you would just listen to the story. But there's an option where you can read it yourself. And she started to use that a bit more

Q Do you have Netflix? Anything like that? Or ITV?

A We do have Netflix, yes. She would tend to only watch that if we're travelling anywhere. We'll download a few programmes for her on it, so she can watch it in the car. She would know how to probably get onto the app and then look at the downloads bit. But she wouldn't really know much else to do, like searching things or working the app herself, other than just going to where the downloaded bits are.

Q What does she watch off Netflix? Does she watch anything?

A She particularly likes Miraculous Ladybug is her favourite show.

Q Yes, that's a popular one in our house as well.

A Yes, she's really into that one. And she'll watch some other series. Little Princess. She like that one. She still likes Peppa Pig, actually. They're quite easy downloads to watch. My Little Pony. They're the main ones that she would watch on our journey.

Q And we've mentioned a few of these things, how they have an impact on her play. Are there any other things you can think of where any of these programmes or apps have had any other influence on her play at all?

A As I said, she's trying to create things. And when she gets tired, we create what she sees on YouTube. It's hard to say. She sometimes acts like a superhero. So,

she has got a ladybug costume that she got recently, because they had a superhero day at school. So, she likes wearing that. She'll wear stuff from the characters. She's got My Little Pony toys. So, she might act out some of the stories she's heard off the TV. I can't think of anything else directly.

Q No, that's great. That's brilliant. And we mentioned a few of these things, so it might repeat things, but does she play with any videogames or mobile tablet games? And if so, which ones? I think you've mentioned quite a few already, but are there any other ones?

A She doesn't really play videogames. So, my husband's got a little Nintendo retro console, where I think you can play old Mario Kart. So, she's had the odd go at that with him, playing, because she doesn't really know how to use the controllers that well I think. We have got a ps4, but she's never played anything on that. I've got a couple games on the iPad. It's a cooking game where you've just got to make these meals and then send them off to the customers. So, she can play that a little bit, but she would need help to do that one.

Q And you've mentioned the My Little Pony, but does she have any other physical toys that relate to her online digital interests? Any other ones?

A She's got Peppa Pig stuff that she watches. Just the ladybug costumes. I'm trying to think what else she's got. I'm trying to think. Books of CBeebies programmes. I don't know if that's relevant.

Q Great.

A There's a character, Bing, off CBeebies, which she's got quite a few of the books of them. I'm trying to think of what else.

Q Don't worry. It's put you on the spot. It's lots to think of.

A It's just thinking of it.

Q I'll come back to that one. The next one I was going to ask you is about digital toys. So, the given example is Leappad toys or robots, or anything like that. But anything that might connect to the Internet, or link in any way to a digital device. Has she got any toys like that?

A She hasn't really, no. It wasn't Internet connected. I think it might have been a leappad style thing when was a lot younger. It was almost like a little laptop. But it didn't connect to the Internet. Her toys are generally not really electronic ones really, I would say. Her only Internet connection would be on the pads, on the tablets.

Q Are you okay?

A I'm trying to think what she's been given. She's never really been given any toys like that, either.

Q It's all right. I was just interested to know if she's got them or not. Does she play with any... We've already mentioned it. Internet enabled toys like fairy Roblox. But we'll move on from that one. Augmented reality or virtual reality? Any equipment like that in your house?

- A No, we don't have anything like that.
- Q Alexa or Siri, or anything that's artificial intelligence assistance, like Google, or Siri, Alexa?
- A We've got a Google Home device that she'll try and operate as well for songs. Or, she likes to play a game on it. It's the Akinator game, where it has to guess who you're thinking of. And she was quite amazed by that. But I think her voice, because of her age, I don't think it always picks up her voice properly. So, again, she often asks us to help her search for what she wants off it, because it just doesn't activate to her voice for some reason.
- Q How does she react to that when it doesn't activate?
- A She enjoys it. And I think she thinks it's a real person. So, she'll talk to it sometimes and say stuff to it like you would a person. No, you've got to give it more direct instructions and that. But she does enjoy it I think.
- Q That's good. And does her play in outdoor spaces feature any technology in any way? Or, does it show the influence of technology in any way when she's playing in outdoor spaces?
- IE I wouldn't have said so, no. I think she tends to play a lot outside on her scooter, going up and down. She has got a good friend she play out with on scooters, bikes. And I've never really noticed them acting out anything different other than just going up and down, really. I wouldn't have said so. I've not noticed that correlation. No, not when we're outside. When we're outside, she doesn't really act out stuff. She'll just climb the climbing frame or just walk about. She doesn't really bring anything from her place, I would say.
- Q And moving on to Lego. Does she own any LEGO or similar products? And your thoughts on other LEGO brands and LEGO items such as LEGO Bags, films, Legoland. I guess the first things is does she own anything like that?
- A Yes, we've got about three LEGO sets. She's got the classic brick set that we got her for Christmas a couple of years ago. And then, last year she got one of the LEGO Friends sets, a treehouse set. She's got that. And then, she got one, a similar thing to LEGO Friends, a shop set. So, she's got those. We've not been to Legoland, but she went Legoland as part of a school trip. And this year, they went to the Manchester Legoland. A smaller LEGO centre thing. And she enjoyed that quite a lot.
- Q Did she make any comments about the visit?
- A She went on a visit to the Sea Life Centre, but as part of it, I think it's right next to the LEGO place.
- Q It is, isn't it? Yes.
- A So, they went here. And I think they might have watched something. I can't remember exactly what they watched, actually, but they did watch something while they were there. A little video or something, or film. And I think that was it. I don't think they had a huge amount of time, to be honest. But she did come back

saying that she would like to go to Legoland.

Q Really?

A I think she knows some friends who have gone as well, so I think it made it a bit more on her radar than it was before. She watches... It's Superhero Girls films. One's called Brain Drain and Superhero High. And the cartoons are as if they are LEGO characters. So, she does like watching those particular films as well.

Q And how often does she play with the LEGO and the LEGO sets?

A I would say maybe once a week. Yes, once a week she normally will get them out. I don't know if she finds the set a little bit complicated, the treehouse one. So, she tends to stick to trying to make a more basic house shape with the more classic bricks. Using that, rather than doing the full kit, because she can't fully follow the instructions herself without...

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And when you try and help her as well and you say, no, do this bit, she's very much, no, I want to use that brick for that, rather than doing it for how it's designed to be used.

Q That's impressive.

A She likes to build her own basic houses with it. Yes, I'd say once a week she normally gets them out.

Q And you mentioned building houses. Is that the most popular thing she likes to build, or has she got other things she builds?

A Generally houses, yes. And trying to put the windows in, the doors in, and then getting the little figures and playing. Also, sometimes she'll bring figures from Playmobil or a Sylvania Families set into the LEGO house to play as well. I think when she was younger, she would have more of the Mega Bloks style building stuff. So, she would do rockets and trying to build a rocket. But houses are pretty much what she'll build now.

Q Okay, that's very interesting. Thank you. So, we're moving on to questions relating to your view on your child's play and technology. So, question one, who decides which devices, toys, games, apps she uses, and what guides these choices?

A Me and my husband will have a look to make sure if things she's looking at on the kids app, whether it's appropriate or not. And we'll put the controls on it. Sometime if she's watched one video on YouTube, it will give a suggestion of something else to watch. And she'll always say, can I watch this? So, if she wants to watch it and it looks suitable, then we'll just let her watch it. So, she guides that bit really. Because we don't really know what's on. As long as it's on the kids app, we feel quite confident with that, that it's not going to be inappropriate.

Q That's good.

A Although, she'll mention toys that she might want. So, obviously, Christmas is

coming up. She might ask for certain things. Or, if there's a toy that we think, actually, that would be good for her, then we'll get her that as well. So, it's probably a bit of both really, that she guides, and things that we have a look at and think it might be good for her.

Q Okay, thank you. And in your view, what types of devices, digital toys, games, apps, first of all, promote play, and why is that?

A I prefer a physical toy. Things like her LEGO. She's got magnet set thing that she'll build things with, and a dollhouse. I think she plays best when she's got things like that, where you can build something, or you have something like a dollhouse and you've got people. And she'll act out scenarios. She'll talk, play families and things with them. I think that's when you really see her imagination coming out. The technical, as I said, she'll play a little bit, playing on her tablet.

But I do feel she's just more watching things, rather than playing afterwards from that. I don't see much play from when she's just watched things. But I think the app, that get her attention for quite a while, doing the CBeebies apps. I just think it's good to have a good variety of play for them as well, and giving them that time to, if they do want a bit of downtime, just watching something. I feel that's okay. As long as it's not too much and it doesn't overreach into other things.

Q And the opposite to that, I guess, is to ask what do you think limits play and why is that?

A Sometimes having someone to play with I think, sometimes can limit. She will ask obviously us to play with her, and we'll do our very best to have that playtime with her. And it gets hard, obviously having a baby recently, that's limited that more. You've got other things you need to be doing or you need to sort out first. Having other children to play with as well. She's quite lucky, we're on a street, a cul de sac, where there's children of similar age and similar interests.

So, she's got quite good opportunities, especially in summertime, to be playing outside and going on little scooters, going on the trampoline. And having children of similar age to go do that with. Where we used to live a few years ago, she wouldn't have had that opportunity at all, because we were in a terraced house on a main road, and there just wasn't the same community around it. So, I think not having that opportunity is the biggest limitation.

Q And then, moving on to, in your view, what types of devices, digital toys, games, apps do you feel promote creativity, and why? So, not play, but creativity this time.

A I do think the tablet can give some creativity. I think she does learn things from that, and with the CBeebies app you can do colouring in, drawing, and things like that. And she's got, it's a phonics app that she has to be fairly creative with that, I think. I think we probably could have bought her more toys like the Leapfrog and the VTech stuff where you can do a little bit more. Sorry, I'm trying to think.

Q No, it's fine. There's so much to think about.

A Yes, there's a lot to think about. I sometimes think we should have maybe got a

few more of the coding toys, to really get thinking about things like that a bit more. Because I think that could be creative in itself. There was a caterpillar thing I was going to get. I think it's Code-A-Pillar. But we never got it. And I don't know why we didn't get it. And you have to programme it, and it would move in the direction that you programmed it. I think that would get your thoughts going and get a bit of creativity.

Q That's impressive.

A And I do wonder if we should have gotten a few more toys like that for her.

Q Okay, thank you. And what do you think limits creativity from those things, devices, digital toys, games, apps? Do you think any limit creativity, and why?

A I suppose if you're just watching things and then not trying to follow. If it is just a completely passive experience. I suppose just watching some of the YouTube things could be fairly passive. That you're just watching it and you're not bringing anything into your real life from it.

I think the way that certain apps are designed, things like the CBeebies ones and the Samsung, the hairdresser one, I think it does encourage them to think about, and to be creative. Because you've got to many different choices in the app of what you can do. I think they let the child do what they like with it. They're not telling the child what to do. It's just these are the tools we've got. Have a play with it. So, I think they do help creativity. Definitely.

Q That's great. Thank you very much.

A So, it's probably choosing the right app, and you're letting them have a go with it, rather than just watching something.

Q And moving on to Lego, again. What do you think LEGO should be developing for children in this digital age? Are there any toys or products that you think they could develop that would be good for this digital age?

A I think LEGO is just such a classic toy. I'm not sure how you could change it to be more digital, other than just keep doing what they're doing.

Reflecting the latest interests, like the Frozen things that are out now, and Harry Potter things. Making toys that reflect maybe what they're watching, rather than making the toys any different.

Q It makes sense, yes.

A Because I think it would be a shame to have digital versions of everything. I don't know how you would do it with Lego. But I think just keeping it relevant to what the interests would be at the time. What the children are watching. Keeping up with the themes. That would be the only thing I would say. And I think they're already doing that, really. I think it's good to have toys that are not digital, and to have that mixture.

Q And we're interested in your child's active engagement with technology in play. We've covered that a little bit, but when playing with technology, how far is your child actively engaged? E.g., interested, focused on the activity in general.

A She's very focused. For her age, she's always had quite a good attention span. So, whatever she's doing, whatever she's watching, that's what she's interested in. If you ask her a question, you have to ask it three times to get her attention back to you. So, she'll laugh along. You can see that she's just completely absorbed in it.

Q That's great. And similarly, we're interested in whether she finds play with technology meaningful and relates their experiences to their everyday lives. I know you've mentioned this already.

So, how far would you say that your child finds the play to be meaningful to them and their everyday interests in general? I think there's a lot going on there, isn't there? She's got a lot of things that she's really interested in, and that relates really well to what she's...

A Yes. Even though I'd say the YouTube people she watches, maybe that's something I probably have mentioned, that she'll go on and want to make slime. So, she's the girls on the TV thing on YouTube making slime. She'll want to make it.

Or, it'll give her ideas on what she can do next. Or, she'll relate back. There's another she watches, actually I just remembered, I think it's a baking show on YouTube for children. So, she'll want to make a cake or she'll want to make biscuits because she's seen it on YouTube. So, for something that she likes, to be able to tell you, I've seen this and I want to do this. So, she can refer back to it in her general day to day life. You can tell she gets a lot of enjoyment out of it.

Q Okay, thank you. And we're interested in ways that she might try things out and then try to make improvements or set further challenges when playing with technology. So, when playing with technology, how far do you feel that she enjoys trying things out and making improvements in general?

A I think she very much likes doing it. One of the games on my husband's Samsung tablet is you have to get a character from one side of the river to the other, and you've got to get a pathway and almost code it, programme it in. And she always used to ask for my help with that, our help with that, but now she's trying to do it on her own a little bit more. And you can see when she gets nearer or she can manage a more basic one, she's really happy with that. I think she really gets a lot from it.

She does sometimes get a little bit impatient if she can't do things, or if she's not successful at a particular game. It does cut her off a little bit. But we say to her, you've got to keep trying. You can't just give up on things. So, she does like to keep challenging herself a bit. The cooking game I mentioned, she has needed help with. That's a time pressured game, which she doesn't always like. She doesn't like being put under that pressure.

Q Interesting.

A Even in a game scenario. So, you can see her when the time's running out or the customers are waiting, she gets a little bit, can you do it? She gets a bit under pressure from it, I think. And sometimes that's how she can be in normal life as well. Even if you're just playing a game or you're trying to race her. So, my

husband is like, come on, I'll race you home. Walking down the street. She'll go, no, I don't want to. She doesn't like to be put under that pressure.

Q Okay, thank you. That's really interesting. So, moving on to the next section, with questions relating to play with technology and children's emotions, which you just mentioned a little bit of, and wellbeing.

We are exploring the link between play with technology and children's emotions and wellbeing. Do you have any thoughts on this topic? So, how technology and children's emotions and wellbeing link, and what you've noticed maybe? You've just mentioned some there with the time pressure.

A Yes, that's one of the bigger ones I think. I think she normally watches things that make her fairly happy, I would say, so far. I think we're conscious of, as she gets older, that might change a bit. And we have to be mindful of what she might be watching. The things she watches are fairly upbeat, I would say. I've never felt she's been upset or anything, by anything she watches on the technology. She gets upset by certain books.

Even though you think it's absolutely fine, there's a couple of Christmas books we've been reading and she's not liked them, because they've been a bit emotional. It's made her a bit emotional. But I've never come across that on technology stuff she's watched. I sometimes wonder if she almost ignores you a little bit when she's on these things.

And then, when you try and bring her attention, she sometimes wants to keep on watching at the table when we're eating. We've said no. She gets a bit unhappy with that. But I think that's more just she wants to keep on watching things, rather than the content making her feel like that.

Q So, in general, because the next question is how far do you think she enjoys her play with technology, is she joyful, happy, cheerful? But I think you've said.

A I would say she's quite cheerful generally with it. She's obviously happy to show you things. As I say, she's laughing at things she's seeing.

Q Are there any other ranges of emotions that you notice when she's involved with play in technology? You've mentioned she laughs. Are there any other emotions you can think of?

A When she's playing a game that's under time pressure, just that... Not anxiety, just that you can tell she wants to finish this task. But there's time when she might not do it. So, it's almost like an urgency with her that she'll show you to come and help her. Or, where she's not as relaxed, I would say. But that's just while she's in that zone I think. That's not carried on after she's stopped playing it or anything.

Q That's interesting. And are there any types of technology that she gets bored with when playing, and why do you think that is? Is it similar or different to the way she gets bored when not playing with technology? So, is there a link there with the way she reacts and gets bored with things? Is it different when she's playing with technology to when she's not playing with technology?

A She's always had quite a good attention span, and she's always played with things for quite a long spell of time.

She probably watches things longer than she would physically play with something, I would say. But that could still be a good length. She'll make believe stories with her dollhouse for a good 20 minutes, half an hour, sometimes longer. I wouldn't say there's much difference. Technology, she would play with something longer, and get bored. But she just moves onto the next thing. It's never a big thing. She'll just finish playing and then maybe go and pick something else, or do something different.

Q Okay, thank you. And we're interested in her social interactions in relationship to their play with technology. So, when playing with technology, that allows for social interaction. Would you say that she engages well with others? You mentioned a lot where she'd come see you for advice and she'd asked you to help.

A For the apps and things like that, she engages really nicely. So, she'll come in and show you, or she'll get you to have a go or help her with it. When she's watching YouTube, she's a bit more focused on that, and doesn't really interact. She might show you things that she's seen. She'll laugh at something and say, look at what they've done, mummy. But it's a lot less than when she's playing on her actual app, with games.

As I said, it's harder to get her attention. Or we'll say, put your phone down. We're going to have our dinner now around the table. And she'll get a bit, I want to keep watching. No, you're not. We'll have a little bit of a debate about that. So, yes, I would say watching YouTube, she's a bit more isolated with it I would say, and not as interactive. For apps, I would say she's still pretty interactive because she likes sharing and she likes to get your help with it.

Q And just going back to the devices she uses. How often will she watch television? Or, would she mainly watch YouTube on your iPad?

A Yes, she would watch YouTube on my iPad. We have got a smart TV, so sometimes if there's something particular she wants to watch, we'll sometimes put it on that in the living room. So, sometimes she'll come in from school and ask to watch a certain programme that we've recorded from Sky, on the Sky Box. So, I just depends, really. It just depends on what she fancies or if there's something in particular she wants to watch.

Q And what things would you watch off the Sky Box?

A Most of them are off CBeebies. There's a CBeebies show called Maddie's Do You Know? She really likes that one.

Q Yes, I know that one.

A There's a My Family one on CBeebies. She likes the Disney Channel as well. Again, Miraculous Ladybug. She likes that one a lot.

Q And would you say that you watch more things together when it's on the television, or is it irrelevant?

If you were going to watch something together, would it be on the iPad or would you watch it on the television?

A We'd watch it on the telly, if we were watching it together.

Q And questions about parents' roles in technology mediated play. When your child's play involved technology, do you ever play with him or her? If so, how? We've talked a bit about it already. I guess more times when you're playing together. When would they be, and what would that be doing?

A It would be the games where she wants to have a bit of help with. So, the pirate Swashbuckle game on the CBeebies app. She likes to get your help with the tasks to win the duels back. Or, there's the Samsung app one where you've got to get from one side of the river to the other. It's working that pattern out. So, sometimes she'll ask for your help with that as well. So, we'll do those things together.

Q And the next question was are there devices, toys, games, apps, that are better than others for playing together with your child? I think you just covered that. I don't think we need to dwell on that one too much. So, I'll move on to the next one. If you're using your own devices, does your child ever ask to play on them with you? And if so, what things do you play together on them? I think we've covered that, but is there anything else you want to add?

A Even though she uses my iPad, she's got the CBeebies apps and her kids apps on there. As I said, I've got a couple of little games that are on there as well that are suitable for her to play with me helping her. So, it's what we said about the different apps, that the children are getting the games to play on there.

Q And other than Netflix, are there any other devices, apps, that she needs you to help her with to access?

A She doesn't really ask to go on any other apps, really. The YouTube Kids one, she can get on that, and there's a few things on there that she can look for. Netflix, she can get on. But everything else, I don't think she knows there's much else other than that. She knows the CBeebies apps and that's it.

She doesn't really ask for any other ones. I think she's maybe not aware of them, or she's quite happy with what she's got. So, she can get on those. But she doesn't really go on the apps that I've got on, my other general stuff that's on there. She doesn't really go on them. She just focuses on her own interests.

Q And do you ever initiate play using technology with her? And if so, can you give me any examples? And if not, do you know why that is?

A I probably don't initiate a lot. It's normally if she wants to play on the iPad, for example. I think I prefer to physically play with her. You hear a lot about screen time being too much. I don't maybe encourage it. If we're playing together, we'll play something else.

I'll try and get a board game or do some drawing, or something. The only time that we've done it is when the teachers have said there's a phonics app that is quite good for them. I've downloaded and let's have a look at this. But it's almost

their instruction. Because I'm probably a bit concerned about screen time and the issue of what is too much.

Q So, the next series of questions are about your general perceptions of technologies. Do you think certain technologies offer more positive or negative experiences for your child, and which ones?

A I think they probably all have their positives and negatives. There's elements of how our youth are using the iPads, whether it's just watching it too much or watching it just on her own, not really interacting. And consoles. We've not really bought her any games for it. As I said, we've got a ps4. We never really bought her anything for that.

Again, we think, is it going to make her play this and lose some normal play outside of the house or with her friends? When you read about some people becoming addicted to playing console games. She's too young for it, Fortnite and things like that. I think, is it opening up that Pandora's box to her, by encouraging her to do it?

She's not interested in, say, the ps4. And I'm happy to leave it at that for now. If she ever becomes interested, I do feel if she was playing things like that, whether that would be too much, too young for her. And she'd just be a bit too isolated in playing those things.

Q That's fine. Any other ones, positive or negative, that you can think of?

A I think children have to be up to date with how to use that. Because I think using this equipment is really good, and it's teaching skills of how to get onto things, and helping their literacy, if they have to type in certain words and things like that. So, I think there are a lot of positives to it. And I think they have to be very literate with things like iPads and all of that now, because actually schools are using them.

So, the positives are that they get familiar with these bits of equipment younger. And does it open up a bit more of the world to them? They're watching YouTube things. They're watching people in America or in other places. She'll give me facts about something.

I think she is learning things from some of the things that she watches, definitely. I think there's negatives there that you just wonder, I'm just conscious of her not being on them too much. Because I just feel, would too much of it make her not play with her friends as much, or interact with us as much?

Q Okay, thank you. And other than the ones you've mentioned, do you have any other concerns about her experiences with technology, and what has shaped these concerns? You've mentioned quite a lot there, but is there anything else you want to mention?

A We're conscious of having the parental controls on. And we ask her, if there's something you're not sure, will you ask us, show us what you're watching first? So, she watches things while we're in the living room, for example. She wouldn't take the iPad to her room or anything. I think as she gets older, I'm just a bit more

conscious that this might open up things like cyberbullying and things like that. But at the moment, that's not a particular concern. She's more going forward, really, unconscious of those issues.

Q Question three was about concerns relating to safety aspects of Internet enabled toys, but I don't think you've got any of those, have you?

A No, I haven't.

Q So, we don't need to worry about that. And data privacy as well, in relation to your child. Any concerns? Like you said, it's something that going forward you've mentioned you're thinking about. But is there anything else you're worried about?

A Not at this age. I think it's more in the future when she might do a bit more on it, and use different apps and games. I'm not concerned about the things she uses now, using data. She hasn't got her own login for YouTube. She uses my login. So, it's not really her data out there.

Q And do you think that her use of technology influences family life in a positive way, in any way? If so, how?

A I think she introduces us to a whole new world of YouTube and stuff. I've never heard of half of these people on it.

Q I can relate to that.

A She keeps us current, I suppose. She keeps us current with things, I would say. You know a bit more about what the kids are interested at her age now. And it just helps you keep abreast with what's going on, I think.

Q And any negative influences by technology in your family life?

A I think because we're fairly strict with it, not watching at the dining table and things, and if we're out for meals, she might watch it a little bit. I think if we weren't as strict with that, that would impact a lot more. Because I know we've got family who when we go out, my nephews are allowed to watch stuff on the phone all the way through the meal, for example. And when I say to my daughter, we want you to put it away when the food comes.

So, that potentially could cause some friction if we went out more for meals. We don't see them a huge amount just because of where we live. But I think because we're quite strict with it, it doesn't really impact on our lives. But it's more if we're chatting with people who don't the same opinion of it. But, as I say, because we live apart, meeting up is not as often as it might be. We're more local.

Q And do you have any concerns about her use of technology at home? And if so, do you add anything there?

A I think not at her age. I think, as I said, it's more going forwards. And if she wants her own device, monitoring that. But at the moment, she's quite happy to use our ones, under our supervision, really.

Q And the last question I want to ask you is what advice or guidance would you

offer new parents on issues relating to data privacy and safety in relation to your child?

A I think using the kids appropriate apps, because they're going to want to use it. I feel it's hard to ban this, and I think they do get some positives from using these apps and things. I think it's just making sure it's child appropriate. You've got your parental locks on.

And that you're saying to them, if you're not sure, show me what you're watching. Make sure that you know, and that you have that conversation with them. Even from being early, four or five years old, she was showing us, can I watch this? Before watching it. So, just having that dialogue with them and having all the apps as secure as you can.

Q Brilliant. That's great. Thank you so much.