

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

C ....she was playing hide and seek with the LEGO or something.

Q This is you filming Saskia, yeah. Hide and seek with the LEGO, that's interesting. So how does that work?

C So I was hiding the LEGO pieces that were on the table, and in a couple of seconds Saskia found them.

Q So did you have your eyes closed Saskia, is that it? Can you see where....because you were saying....who is the seeker then if that's the case?

C Saskia.

Q So have you got your eyes closed?

D Yeah I had my eyes closed when Stephanie was hiding them.

Q I see. Oh did you see them do this, with the LEGO?

A ???

C I had my other glasses on.

A Oh, how come?

C It must have been a while ago. I think this is one of the first ones.

Q It is one of the first ones that you made, yeah. So that's really neat, I don't think I've ever heard of anyone playing hide and seek with LEGO before.

A Yeah.

Q So how did that idea come about, because hide and seek is obviously a game that you would normally play yourselves wouldn't you, so it's fun to do it with the LEGO characters.

D This is when you....this was the first visit when you came after.

Q Oh was it, you used it straightaway, good. You're obviously not scared to use that GoPro camera. Who made up this game.

D Saskia.

Q Have you played it before then?

C Yeah.

Q Lots of times, or....had you played it lots of times beforehand?

C We've played it a couple of times.

Q Is it one you always play together, the two of you?

D Not always.

Q Have you played it with anybody else?

D Yeah.

Q Who else do you play that with?

D Megan.

Q Oh, is that someone in your class?

D No.

C She's ??? cousin but we see her all the time.

D She's our friend.

Q And does she come round to your house and you play it then? So at this point have you got your eyes open again?

D Yeah.

Q What are the rules of the game, how do you play? I know how to play hide and seek obviously but it's a bit different where you've got the LEGO pieces, how does it work?

D You have to hide them under different objects.

C And she's trying to move. That's why she's going on the table, she's trying to move.

D I'm trying to get on to the cushion.

C But now we're getting ready to hide I think.

Q So you have to put the pieces into the LEGO model is that it, is that where you're hiding them?

C You either put them in the LEGO model....

D Or hide them ???

C I put some of them in a little box there in the background. And I hid some of them in the papers.

D She hid some under that bush there.

Q2 So are you getting ready to hide them now?

C Yeah.

Q2 I see.

Q And it's always the figures, the Snow White and people like that?

D I think ??? I think.

Q What's the Whale, Whale, Whale, Shark bit then?

C Duck, Duck, Goose.

Q I was going to say it sounds like Duck, Duck, Goose. Oh, so they're playing that now. And do you each take a figure to do the game with?

C Yeah.

Q That's really neat. So you do normal like playground games but you do them with the Disney figures.

Q2 And are they games that you will play in the playground at school?

C Sometimes. If it's warm enough to like sit on the floor or on the hiding....yeah because most of the time we're either inside or everyone's sat on the patios that we've got outside the playground.

A We're going for tea now anyway, all stuff they're going out for tea with the girls, and then one by one everyone's germy or can't come for whatever reason, so, or they're ???

Q It sounds like you're making up new things, like you know not the normal Duck, Duck, Goose words. Is that something you'd do in this game, you like to make up new words? You're nodding Saskia. Can you give me some examples of some of the variations that you do then, I just know it as Duck, Duck, Goose but you don't, what were you singing, Shark, Shark, Whale was one of them, is that right?

D Whale, Whale, Shark.

Q Oh the other way round, silly me. What are some of the other ones that you've thought of?

C Thunderstorm.

Q Yeah, and what's the other bit, Thunderstorm, that's a big mouthful isn't it? Is it Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm....something.

D Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm, Sun....

C I think she's making that up.

Q That's alright. But that's what you're doing in the whole game isn't it, you're making up those things?

C Mmm.

Q And why do you do that, what do you think....what's the....do you enjoy doing that, is it fun?

D Yeah.

Q Can you think of why it's enjoyable to do that?

D Because you are thinking of different things to do with them and hide them in different places.

Q Oh right, so it tests your ingenuity as to where to put them. So do you each take it in turns to hide the pieces?

D Yeah.

Q Yeah. And how long for would you play that game, is it just like 5 minutes or 10 minutes, or can it take the whole afternoon sort of thing?

C Dad was messing with me in the background there. And then Saskia suddenly moved your camera on to dad.

B ???

Q That's brilliant. Is there any more we should be asking on that one?

Q2 And would you normally play with LEGO in the kitchen ???

C Yeah normally.

A That's the LEGO table.

C Yeah, LEGO table or in the conservatory.

A But it's a bit too cold isn't it in the conservatory. Keep saying we're going to get another dining table to put in the conservatory so that the LEGO can go on there.

Q Because you have to clear it away every time you're going to have a meal otherwise don't you?

A Yeah. And then I get ??? and they push it all to the back of the table.

Q2 And what do you like about playing with LEGO?

D That you get to make them do some things in different ??? to control them.

Q Control them, that's a nice word, gosh. So you mean like make them say stuff and move them around. And I suppose in a way is it a bit like making them come to life would you say Saskia?

D Yeah.

Q And do you like to do things that make you laugh?

D Mmm.

Q I wondered about the words in Duck, Duck, Goose thing, it looked as though it's making you smile a fair bit just thinking about that. What's the funniest or silliest thing you've ever made up for the Duck, Duck, Goose words, can you remember now?

D The thunderstorm one.

Q You like the thunderstorm one. I like that one too. What do you like about that one? I know what I like about it but go on.

D It's because you get to choose the weather.

Q Yes. What I thought was funny about it was it's quite a big mouthful. You know Duck, Duck, Goose, it's quite easy to say. Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm....there's a lot of syllables to get out.

D Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm, Sun.

Q That's right, it's a tongue twister.

C Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm, Sun.

D Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm.....

C Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm, Thunderstorm.....it gets mixed up after certain times.

Q That's right.

D Yeah.

Q Here's my favourite catch, can you say 'Irish wristwatch'.

C Iris wristwatch.

D Irsh Wist Watch. Irish Wish Watch.

C Iris Wrist....no. Irish wristwatch.

Q Got it. You have to think.

C Irish wristwatch.

Q Our transcriber will be scratching her head, we'd better get back to the questions. But there's one for you to practise and catch your friends out there.

D Irish wristwatch.

C Irish wristwatch.....yeah I think that's it.

Q That's it. Would you like to find another one? Could you just click on that arrow over there Stephanie please?

Q2 Do you often give your toys voices and things when you're playing with them?

A Do you give your toys voices?

Q Let me just pause it if that's alright, because I think it's also quite hard to watch it and listen at the same time isn't it. Yes sorry.

C Yeah, I think that one's a bit longer, because in this one I'm showing what I've done.

Q This is your....yeah that's right. But just thinking about toys and voices, because I've got a feeling dad was saying also that you did – I was looking back on something and you were saying you did like, you know some of the unwrapping, unboxing things on YouTube. Do you ever do like those things as well, do you copy those?

D No.

Q Or do you just like to watch them?

C Not really.

A They used to do that unboxing thing didn't you, probably not so much now.

B You used to watch it didn't you? But not now so much.

Q But not....and do the voices, or am I mis-remembering that? I could be mis-remembering it actually.

A No I think you have done the voices before haven't you girls?

Q Yeah?

A American usually.

Q Yes well they're often American aren't they?

C Yeah that's....

Q So this is you showing us your book, have you finished it by the way yet Stephanie, how is it coming on?

C Not quite. I've just done....what's after Crayola....what did we do after Crayola World?

D Went home.

C No, what was it, what did we do after, and what was the next park?

D We didn't go to it.

C So I've done that.

D We didn't go to another park. It's finished.

A I don't know. You had some more photos printed off didn't you ???

Q Yes. Can we find one where you're actually using a device, is that OK?

C Yeah, yeah.

Q Because we've done quite a bit with the toys, and we were really interested....I think there's some of you maybe doing Roblox, or maybe doing some of the things that you do on your tablet as well Saskia.

C Let's find it.

Q I love this, the tour of the house. You're very good at tours, you two.

C We've done a lot of toys.

Q That's fine, I mean I like them but we wanted to capture this as well.

D I make up something on this one.

Q Oh really? Can you remember what it was?

D A ???

Q Ah yes that's it, yes I remember we saw that. And this is one, this is a....

Q2 So what were you doing here?

C On here I'm in the Enchanted High Bedrooms and I'm showing you around my bedroom.

Q Do you ever watch them do much, or Stephanie, do much with the Roblox or anything? I get the sort of feeling....

B I've watched her a little bit while she's been doing it.

Q Oh have you, yeah?

B But it's basically just walking round and....

A I know, it looks pretty.....but she loves it and they're like ???

B They go walking round. And she wanted to spend some money on the ??? She wanted to do some....they will charm us to get some money to spend on it. I said 'you're not spending on a game like that'. I mean I play games and I'll fall into like buying in-app purchases and stuff like that mind. It's not worth it. ???

Q Yeah.

C Like the things I've been wanting to buy though are like ??? and stuff.

A ???

Q Right, I was going to say so there's a bit of a barrier there in some ways to sort of follow what it is, because I know you were saying that about the sort of YouTube, ??? they like the unboxing and anything like that, and I guess ???

B No. ??? spends on Roblox, but there is more ??? now. (inaudible conversation continues)

C I think when I'm doing this though I'm finding it hard to look at the screen to see what I'm doing and make sure the GoPro camera's on the screen as well.

Q2 Aha, oh you're trying to make sure you were capturing what you were doing.

C Mmm.

Q2 Are you changing the face of your character as well?

C Yeah.

Q2 What ???

C It's just like when you're moving around, like dad said, there's still loads of different things you can see. And on this game right now that I'm playing, I've made millions and millions of different outfits on the game. I'm creating my first outfit right now I think. Yeah,



because one of my very first outfits was that, yeah, that I'm wearing now. That was my very first outfit that I ever created.

B Saskia's been wanting ???

D What?

B On Roblox, she's been asking if she can have ???

*Inaudible conversation in background*

Q Oh right, OK, what makes her say that?

B ???

Q I don't actually know what the....it's because you think there is a recommended age for it?

B Probably. I just don't think ???

C So now that's my dance outfit.

Q2 That's your dance outfit?

C Yeah.

Q Is that because of the possibility of meeting other people that you mentioned or....?

B I don't know. I just think because of the age what she started playing it....

A I'm sure it's a recommended age, like 8 plus, because ???

B ??? she started using it ???

Q2 And does the game make you change your clothes or is it something you choose to do?

C It's something you choose to sort of....you can either have a different outfit or you can just wear the ??? clothes for the rest of the day. Because it doesn't cost diamonds to change your outfit or make another outfit, you just have to save it to your chart.

Q2 Oh OK.

B I think it's just ??? as well that she enjoys it that much and all the different stuff you can do. And she was going round someone's house just to ??? people's different houses to see what they're like.

Q In the game, yes.

B She was trying to save up like money so she can have her own house ??? It just reminds me of something like Minecraft and some of the stuff like that, with like ??? person just walking about. I didn't see much...well I didn't, she knows what she's doing but I didn't see any relevance really, but you do have to undo all plasters and stuff like that and earn rewards, have to like go to class or go in the woods and stuff like that don't you so....

C Yeah, I just....on here I just got another....

D Midget? power.

C Yeah I just got another power.

Q I was just thinking about, do you find it hard to talk...I mean do you want to talk to them about it, do you want to sort of....I mean are you content that Stephanie's doing it and...you know, is it hard to share, is it hard to talk about, it is hard to....

A No, she tells us the latest pets that she's got and she wants and things that she wants to maybe change about it. So we do have chats about it.

Q You do.

A But we don't really understand it.

Q Yeah. I mean is that any different from other things that they do, other games or other toys that are non-digital stuff would you say?

A I suppose, yeah.

Q I'm just curious really, you know obviously they're very independent but at the same time just curious about your own feelings and how much you feel you want to share and how much you can share really in what they're doing in these sorts of games.

A Once I learn a bit more about it.

B You can actually create your own games in it, and you have to spend money on it to be able to do it.

Q Right, so does it become a little bit more of a point of discussion when there's money....you know they obviously know and they can report to you that that is the case.

B Yeah, some people spend money on it but...

Q Yeah, but you're not so....no.

B No, not when ??? could just disappear in a month or whatever, or in a year it could just disappear and whatever money you've ploughed into it and you don't get to see it back. It's not someat I'd ??? to. I mean I play like a PVB, PV, Player Reverse and Player game that ??? normally ??? it can take months and years to get to different levels, and there's people who spend hundreds and thousands on them to get there quicker.

Q Yes, and is that in the back of your mind perhaps when you're thinking about what Stephanie's doing, you don't....

B Yeah, it's not worth spending money on a game like that. Yet some people do just to get further along a lot quicker.

Q Yes exactly, you're sort of buying your progress as it were, yeah. And do you feel there's like a learning curve as well about effort and reward and things like that?

B I suppose there is, yeah. It's just a constant money spend, constantly wasting their money.

C Because I didn't really do videos on separate things, so I don't forget my locker combo.

Q OK, are you still in Roblox here?

C Yeah. And this is the same game.

Q Yeah. Oh I'm not sure where that one is, sorry about that. It might be on the camera and we've just not....perhaps I've overlooked one and we've not downloaded it. What did you want to say about it?

C Because the one I did, instead of speaking on the game I was in the actual....instead of speaking on the actual GoPro camera I was typing stuff into the chat on the game and letting the GoPro camera see it so you'd be able to read it.

Q Oh right. Oh that sounds a very imaginative use there. When I get the GoPro camera back to the university I'll have a look for it, and if I can find it I'll make sure that we get that one in with all your ones there. Thank you for doing that, you've obviously thought very carefully.

D On Wednesday I was sorting out some pictures from our trip to Florida, and we're going to make a photo book out of them.

Q You're going to make a photo book? Oh that's great.

D I know how to work it to get them printed out into the photo book.

Q Do you? Wow.

A She was doing it with her grandad weren't you?

Q Oh yeah, we were going to ask you about grandad, he seems to be....he's very good, I know he's been helping you sort family photos out in a more general way. But he seems to be really on some of these things, and he's been teaching you things to?

D Yeah.

Q So is that both of you he's been working with the photos on?

D How do you know which letter that is?

Q Yes it's got rubbed out. It's the letter N because I know where it is on the keyboard, but yes it's got rubbed out because I use it so much.

D And then that would be the letter.....

C S.

Q That's right. I need to get back to the manufacturers and tell them they didn't last very long those letters. That's great.

D You could like put something over that and then write it back on.

Q Yes that's what I need to do, that's right. I need to get a transfer on there.

Q2 And would you normally type in the game Stephanie?

C Sometimes, if I'm either asking someone where something is, or if I'm talking to one of my friends in the game.

Q2 And is one of the reasons that you like the game so much because you can talk to your friends do you think? Do you think that's important?

C Yeah, because it would be totally different if you just walked around and you couldn't communicate with anybody. Especially if you're new and you don't know where anything is and you need help finding your way around the game.

Q2 Do you think that's really helpful that you can other people who are actually playing the game to help?

C Yeah.

Q2 And do you ever talk with anybody down at school about Roblox, like with your friends?

C Sometimes.

Q2 What kind of things do you talk about with your friends?

C Normally it's like 'do you want to play a game with me tonight' and 'what game would it be'.

Q2 Ah OK, so you like find what you might do when you get home?

C Yeah.

Q Is that so you can meet them in the game? You agree to make up as it were later on in the game?

C Yeah. And because in some games you can teleport to your friends, and so if you go on the Home page in the actual game you can send friend requests and they can accept your friend request so they can join in, if they know what game you're on they can join in the game and teleport to you in some of the games.

Q Yes I see. That's really good. Well ??? on the GoPro thing, shall we move on to other things ??? but thank you ever so much that's been really great, and I will look for that film. I was wondering if there was anything in your minds when you were doing the GoPro films by the way whether you sort of thought 'oh that would be interesting to do', or if they was a reason, or it's just you felt like using the GoPro that day. Was there any choice behind it would you say?

C No, it's just like if you've got nothing to do it's just something else that you can do to entertain yourself.

Q Were you thinking about us looking at the GoPro films later on? Were you thinking 'oh that would be an interesting one, I'll show that to Beth and Julia', or the LEGO people or something like that? Did you?

C Normally I wasn't really thinking about that, I was just filming it. And sometimes after I'd be like 'would they really want to see that' or ???

Q Yeah, oh I think we want to see all of it, you've done some really brilliant ones, but we just wondered what the choices were, what led you to film that particular thing.

Q2 Were they kind of things that you normally play with and normally do?

C Yeah.

Q That's great. OK so I'm going to leave you with Beth now to do stuff and I'll turn my attention to Katie and Matt.

A So if I do that and then it will just keep them....

Q That's right, so we're going in reverse order here aren't we. So yeah we're just asked to ask you sort of particularly why these pictures, if they mean anything special to you or if you've got any thoughts about them. Were they following up on something that we spoke about in the visit, or perhaps you can't remember now? They were ones you took specially I think, or were they ones that you had existing that you...

A I think this one....that's actually just after you visited.

Q That's my recollection too, that it was just after we did the play tour upstairs and we'd spent a long time in the playroom with the TV and everything.

A So showing you the TV and stuff, I just that would be nice for you to have a...surrounded by all the dolls.

Q Yeah, brilliant. Saskia's expression, is that anything to do with....you know because it's an absolutely photo of her face.

A It's just one of her many faces that she'll pull, I'm sure she'll do it now.

Q Is she fond of playing in there would you say and is it something she really enjoys?

A Yeah, she'll just take herself off and play in there on her own.

Q Yeah. I think you mentioned before, we're quite interested about sort of the emotional journey of play and what happens there, and I don't know have you ever sort of listened in, is she kind of...you know is she excited, is she...can you characterise some of the....or is she just sort of doing it? Is there a kind of feeling about what she's doing and...

A She always seems quite happy when she's playing, we have a little listen.

Q Yeah, even when she's on her own?

A Yeah, she's fine.

Q Is she like now, is she talking, is she doing voices then or...

A Yeah she's always talking to herself isn't she if she's playing, role play and stuff.

B Oh yeah, like you can hear her upstairs. You hear screaming and doing all ??? all kinds of ??? isn't she. I'm like 'what's she doing up there'.

Q Yeah. And so I suppose you could call it animated in that way would you say?

A Yes.

Q She's upbeat and lively.

A Yeah.

Q Is she imagining she's the toys there, is that one of the times when she's putting on the voices, or is she...like imaginary people she's playing with would you say, or just some sort of dialogue in her head?

A Yeah.

B Yeah she just ??? doesn't she.

Q OK let's go on. Oh yes so we've got some more on the kitchen table here.

A Yeah, she spends a lot of her time again just if she gets fed up in the air with whatever she might be doing she'll just take herself off in there, play with the LEGO. I think she's got....a horse and carriage thing going on there, it all ends up getting jumbled together, but I think that's from like a Cinderella set what she's got. And she's put all this together with the horse and carriage and everything.

Q So when she's doing that is she quite sort of quiet and engaged, or is she even doing voices and kind of story imaginary stuff?

A A little bit of voice, but yeah quiet when she's doing the LEGO.

Q Yeah. I think you mentioned when we first met that Saskia's more inclined to not say focus on a whole say film or something like that, but might go off and do stuff.

A Yeah.

Q Would you say she's more inclined to...is she a hands-on kind of person in that way, play wise?

A She loves doing her crafts and stuff like that doesn't she? She's a bit like me, she doesn't sit still for long, I've always got to be doing summat. Matt and Stephanie are happy to chill and then you might want to stay for longer periods that we are really. But couldn't be doing it.

Q Yes, so she's a busy, on the go sort of person.

A Yeah.

Q That's really interesting. Because they've all got their slightly different play personalities I always think, you know. Is Stephanie similar would you say?

A I think she's more like you isn't she a bit more?

B Yeah, she'd be happy just to sit there and watch that.

Q Watch the screen, you're indicating, for the purpose of the recording. Yeah. I absolutely love this film, did you take it especially for us or was this an existing one that you had?

A I think so, I can't remember now. She likes sitting in the room doing this.

B She'll sit there and watch it won't she, Saskia, she'll sit there and watch Stephanie on the computer.

Q Will she? Yeah.

B Yeah, she doesn't have to play, she likes sitting there and just watching sometimes.

Q Just watching, yes.

B So she could probably actually play with the actual...she likes to have a go now and then ??? (inaudible) backwards and forwards ???

Q I suppose....I think it's a little bit maybe like watching somebody drive a car.

B Yeah.

Q And you get....so you know what the clutch does, you know what the gear stick does, you know where they all are. But of course it's another thing when you come to actually physically control the vehicle, you know in theory.

B Yeah because she can't really control it.

Q Yes but it's essential knowledge obviously, it's a step towards the learning.

B Yeah.

Q Do you ever think....do you ever sort of see examples of her transferring maybe some of those skills, Saskia I'm thinking of, into other things, maybe if she's got a new game or something like that, or into other forms of play? Do you ever see any sort of transfer of those skills or....?

B No, not that I can recall.

Q No, so it's in relationship to the actual thing, yeah. So what were they doing again here Katie?

A Stephanie's just down her and I think I just thought it would be nice to video them without them really knowing that they were being video-ed so you can see just naturally what they do in there.

Q Yeah well that's what I think I like about it, it's such a natural...

A Yeah.

Q So from what you're saying they quite often might...you know Saskia might often be in that role of sitting and just watching a bit of what Stephanie's doing, for a while anyway.

A Yes.

Q Does she ask to have a go sometimes as far as you know, or is she...

A Has she had a go on your Roblox Steph? I think she has.

C What?

A Has she had a go on your ??? game.

C Sometimes, but she can't really do it.

D No I don't do ???

Q Would you like to Saskia, is it something that you'd like to have a go it sort of more?

D Yeah.



Q And do you think you learn from watching Stephanie do it? Or do you learn a bit? What do you think?

D I learn a bit of it.

Q Yeah. And how else can you learn to play a game would you say? Is there other stuff you need to do?

D I ask Stephanie to help me.

Q Oh OK, so that's when you're doing the playing and then someone's telling you and helping you what to do. Is there ever a time when you both play together sort of thing?

D Sometimes.

B I mean I'm ???

A Oh. Like now we're on to the Disneyworld ones, which you know all about I think.

Q Yeah. I can't remember, was it Stephanie's idea to do her own scrap book, or is it something that ???

A She got it bought for her birthday, the scrap book.

Q That's right, you did explain, I'm sorry I'd forgotten.

A And then we kind of said she could use it for the holiday, because we went on holiday about a week after her birthday.

Q Has she done stuff like that before?

A Erm....we started doing....we had loads of photos. We printed out like a couple of years worth of photos from that photo box, and for some reason they posted them all to us twice, so we had a collection and then we had all these spares. So she had some old book from school so she started doing someat similar, like we sorted out all the Christmas ones and stuck them all in. Some got finished but some are still in the conservatory so...

Q Yeah, it's quite a big job isn't it, it can be quite overwhelming I find because you don't....unless you print them off just how many pictures you've got.

A ??? oh we had many. But we were cutting them all out.

Q Oh you were actually cutting them, yeah?

A This one is the first proper scrap book, we just took loads of time over it and made it look really nice.

Q Yes it's absolutely fantastic. And it is the sort of thing I think you look back on later and think 'ooh yes' it brings back lots of memories. That's lovely, thank you.

A And this one of Saskia when she dressed up for the TT Rock Star Day.

Q Oh that's right, yes. And we've talked a bit about the Times Table Rock Stars and Spelling Shed and things like that. I mean do you sort of set much store by those, do you like them to do a bit on that each week, do you monitor what they do? Obviously that's school work and I know it's....or do they pretty much choose when they go on and do that sort of thing themselves and you don't need to perhaps monitor it?

A No, I give them a nudge and then they've got to do whatever. Because we keep having battles and stuff at the minute to encourage them to do it.

Q Yeah that's right, yes.

A I think it's the same with anything, the novelty wears off doesn't it after a bit.

Q How often do you like them to go on the school apps?

A Probably ??? at weekend, it's not like an everyday thing, ??? at school and that don't they so I'm quite happy for them to just chill when they get home.

Q Fair enough. And do you have any....you know sort of at the weekends would you ask them to do anything like that, or....

A We do not necessarily the app ones but we do a little bit of like books that I buy them from shops or whatever, Saskia mostly. The novelty's worn off with Steph, hasn't it Steph? Saskia still wants to learn all the time.

Q Oh bless her, yeah.

A So ??? a couple of pages and whatever. And she's in the mood on Sunday morning.

Q Did you find with the Times Table Rock Stars and the Maths Shed, Spelling Shed things like that, did you find that you needed to be involved with either of them at any stage of that?

B No seem to do it themselves don't they?

A Yeah, I think....sit at side of them, can't really do much because they've got to do it themselves anyway haven't they?

Q Yeah, so you're sort of deliberately taking a back seat to make them....yeah.

A Yeah.

Q Oh that's great, thank you. Oh that's a lovely one.

A That's a ??? when she first started it.

Q That's right, that's one of the very early ones, I think that was in August. You'd only just come back more or less hadn't you?

A That's when they went to the library.

Q That's right, was that the reading challenge?

A Yeah.

Q And that's something you do most years.

A Yeah they do.... Saskia making something random again by the looks of it ???

Q Yeah, she doesn't need to have a 'what is it' thing, she just likes it. It's the sheer process isn't it of those putting like 'well there's a wonderful here' it looks like an oil rig or something but you know she just likes, like you say, she likes using Sellotape, getting it all together.

A So now grandad's bought her her own Sellotape dispenser.

Q Oh really? That's a little piece of tech you can't live without I think, they're very important. I love those.

A Making summat out of cardboard boxes from her new wardrobe. I think she isn't sure what yet.

Q Do you think she's more creative with things like that, that are just stuff, that isn't necessarily dedicated to be this thing or that thing. Would you say she's more creative for that sort of thing?

B Yeah I would say so. Even with toilet rolls, she don't want you to chuck them away because she's going to make something out of that.

Q Yeah.

C That's what she's done with that.

B Yeah.

A They do a lot of that I know like Reception age kids don't they, you're forever taking your ??? boxes there.

Q It seems like Saskia's really keen on that, yeah.

A I think that were it.

Q Oh that's lovely, thank you very much indeed, that's grand, that's really good. OK so maybe I can just finish up ??? So I think we spoke earlier about the spending, in-app spending, and that's a no.

B Yeah.

Q So I just wondered if there's any other rules that you have around apps or devices, or you know times for playing, the routine of....

B ??? They don't download that many. A lot of them there just like ??? the colouring one obviously and the Roblox one that she really has, I mean obviously the in-app ??? they don't really play anything or download anything different. Oh sorry she had, both had that CBeebies ??? that she can play games and that, so I don't spend ??? But no, I'm quite laid back with it myself.

Q Yeah you both seem to be really, you know quite hands-off in terms of parenting this.

B Yeah. As long as it's not like anybody, like an adult or anything they can talk to, but pretty much it's alright with us. Just don't like them to be on it too much because they're that engrossed in it and ??? don't like me talking to you don't you? I don't think you even hear when....I think it's probably like us when we used to watch TV, you just, it's there, TV, and it's just noise in the background, ??? someat to do still. That's one of the things really, it becomes annoying.

Q Yes. Do you ever do stuff all together on technology? Oh you're not well Katie, I feel badly. Do you ever do anything all together that involved technology, from watching...I know you watch films together maybe, that sort of thing. Is there anything else that you might do with them on any of the other devices, games together, or on a phone together?

B ??? No. Probably just the film one. Oh ??? the tablet or the Sega, ??? plug into the back of the TV.

A Oh yeah.

B Sega Mega Drive thing, it's just a pad that you plug in.

A Sonic.

B Sonic. We all play Sonic.

Q Oh really do you? Right. How often would you.....

B Well we haven't played it for a while, it's just that you forget that it's behind the TV, I think ??? haven't we?

A Saskia can't really do it, but she's been doing it, I don't know, the control like moves....in them old ones you only go that way don't you and jump. She's still figuring it out.

Q I've never played it actually so I don't know what it involves.

B You just run along and just run into a creature, and then Sonic would die and you start again don't you?

Q Right.

B I think that, that you have to jump on top of him and stuff like that.

Q OK, so it's a bit like Subway Surf but on a bigger screen, you have to sort of jump over the obstacles to keep alive?

B Yeah, it's just like Mario.

Q Mario Kart, yes. Now I know what you're talking about, but yeah.

B But yeah we've played them together haven't we?

Q So you're talking about all four of you together sort of thing?

B Yeah we'll have a go. Katie's best at it.

Q Are you Katie, oh you are, hidden talents.

A Yeah. It's like I grew up with having a Mega Drive.

Q Did you, oh right.

A I think you forget don't you, you think years later 'oh I'll not be able to do it'.

Q So who got that, what was the idea, who initiated getting that, can you remember now?

A I think I might have bought it for my dad, because my dad used to love it, and then it ended up here. We all used to love Sonic.

B We have an Atari haven't we?

A Yeah, and then we have an old Atari, yeah we've got a similar thing. It's just pre-programmed games isn't it. But they're not as bothered about that one, I think that's too old for them.

B Yeah, especially as it's ??? bounce it back up into pieces to disappear.

A Too basic.

B ???

Q But they did enjoy the Sonic did they when you played it?

A My dad did have a Wii at one point but I don't know where it's gone because I think they'd like that now, you know like the Wii Fit stuff.

Q Yeah, is that what you had, Wii Fit?

A They've been on Just Dance before haven't they ??? they liked that.

Q Yeah.

A ???

B ??? I can't remember.

Q Is that the Wii you're speaking about there Matt?

B Yeah.

Q Yes. And the Sonic thing, I mean was that like playing, I don't know, some Snap together or something like that, did it have the same sort of family feeling about it would you say? Was it like fun?

B Yeah.

Q Did they get into it or....

A Yeah.

B ??? she was struggling a bit but....

A I used to have to help her when it got to the end of every second level and there's like a big robot to defeat.

Q Would you sort of let them win sometimes – or you can't really do that can you with a game like that, you can't change that, you've got to....

B No. You've got to collect coins as you go along, so like coins can go ??? spins all your coins out of it. And you're trying to say to them 'pick coins quickly' ???

Q Yeah. But it sounds like you've had a bit of fun with it together, would that be right?

B Yeah.

Q Would you play for long? Is that like a 20 minutes/10 minute thing, or...

A Probably an hour tops, yeah.

Q It sounds like you might have had a bit of a phase of doing that and then it's dropped out of your....

B Yeah so then we didn't play it. We just basically probably moved the TV and like 'oh got this' and plug it in see if it works and then we'll like go on it for say an hour or so.

Q So the initiative came from you really rather than them. Or did they then request it back, did they ask to do that again?

B I think there was a stage weren't they when we ???

A Yeah, we haven't done it for a while.

B No.

Q Great, thank you. There's some questions here about sort of the way that we as parents take a role in their technology sort of play, and that's obviously one thing that you do all together. But I'm getting the impression that you're more sort of letting them....you know you keep a watchful eye but you're also quite hands-off. Would you say that's a fair characterisation of the approach that you take?

B Yeah.

A Yeah.

Q And do you feel that....I mean I think we've spoken about that you feel that some apps are quite creative because they're quite educational, like the drawing ones and the colouring in and things like that. Again, would that be a fair characterisation of how you feel?

A Yeah.

B Yeah I think the CBeebies one was good weren't it?

A Yeah they really liked that CBeebies one.

Q Did they? Do you wish there was something now for a slightly older....you know particularly Stephanie is perhaps getting out of....is she growing out of that one would you say now?

A Yeah.

B ???

Q How about Saskia, would she still....

A She still likes it.

Q Yeah. Do you feel there's something that could be more aimed at slightly older kids?

A That kind of thing, yeah.

Q And do you sort of trust it more when it comes to someone like the BBC, does that help, is it good to...

B Yeah I suppose it is, yeah.

A Yeah, it's going to be safer, you know.

Q Yeah. That's good. Are there any times when you stop them playing with technology, absolutely saying 'no'.

A Yeah, when they've been on it too long.

Q And how long is too long in your opinion? Is that a judgement call at the time, or do you have like times in your mind?

A Don't time it as such, but say at weekend if they've got up and then they've pretty much not done anything else apart from be on that for an hour or so, I'm like 'right, let's sit down and we'll do something else'.

Q Yeah. And what sort of something else would you try and divert them to?

A Just go and play or to do some ???

B Something ??? as such.

A Yeah.

B Just to take them away from the screen.

Q Yeah, so it's OK what it is, it's just not got to involve a screen basically.

A Yeah.

B Yeah, or even like play a board game, like Monopoly is probably the one we play most.

Q Is it?

A Try to, on Sunday, play a couple of games if we can.

Q Do you have any family favourites apart from Monopoly?

B Ludo.

A Ludo and Monopoly's probably the most popular ones aren't they?

B Yeah, it's only like the child's one, not the proper Monopoly.

Q Oh right yeah, because the other one can take a long time in my experience to play.

B Yeah, we have got ??? but it's a lot more complicated as such. So probably later on when they're a bit older ???

Q Yeah. And I think you were saying earlier Matt, we were just talking about who makes the decisions in terms of what they download and things like that. Are you happy for them to find things or do they have to check it out with you each time?

B Yes, they'll tend to ask. Stephanie will ask me if she can download stuff won't she? She won't just download it.



Q How about Saskia, or is she not able to download?

B She never asks. She doesn't even ask to.

A She doesn't know how to.

Q No. But Stephanie always does. Yeah. So do you feel that she's got a good sort of balanced knowledge, she's quite well informed about how she's using this, would you say that she's....

B I would say so, yeah.

Q And is that coming from you, or a mixture of you and maybe what school puts in there about sort of security and good choices?

A Oh yeah, they do a lot with them at school don't they?

B Yeah. Well she knows she has to do it herself, the security thing on this one.

Q Really?

B Switch them off.

Q Yes?

B Oh yeah, she's like pretty switched on with that.

Q That's great, that's good. And I think I've asked you this before but just to double check, so is there ever a kind of reward aspect to using technology, or a punishment thing of taking it away? Is there anything like that as for behaviour say or something like that?

A Yeah when they ??? at night if they won't go to sleep, which is not that often because they're pretty good. I will say 'that's it, there'll be no ??? tomorrow'. And whether I've gone through with it I can't remember.

Q No but you've mentioned it, yeah. Are they allowed to have the technology in their bedrooms at night?

A No. Definitely not.

Q Definitely not. Right OK.

B ??? TVs up there, we've literally got that one TV in the house.

Q Right, so that's a really important thing for you, that you just don't let any tech be up in their bedrooms.

B No, they don't even watch TV – well we haven't got it anyway. Because my friend....

A They don't ask for it because they know that it's just not going to happen.

B Yeah. My friend, he lets his kids ??? table when they're eating watching computers and that. And they've got a TV in every room like. But not while they're eating anyway, ??? want to watch it, it's like it's just glued in front of it ??? eating.

Q Yeah, so that's the same for you when you eat as well is it, you have rules about no devices at the table kind of thing?

B No.

Q And does everybody follow the same rules in the family there then?

B Yeah. ??? first time we were sat at the table yesterday weren't we, we all sat at the table yesterday and ??? because usually we're ??? (inaudible) round the table having something to eat.

Q Right, this is the family sort of lunch kind of thing, yeah?

B Yeah. ??? no technology at the table.

A A lot of the time one of us is dashing off, take one to gymnastics or swimming or whatever, so we eat at different times.

Q Yeah. And you've got an Alexa in your kitchen as well, does that count? It's not technology on the table. Would you use that as part of the family?

B Probably used it for like music haven't we, but you might get Saskia shouting 'turn it up' and like 'switch it off'.

A Yeah, she wants her music on really loud didn't she when we were at Disney, we were like 'no Saskia'.

Q So you'd have the music on while you was....

B No we'd probably just switch it off because it just gets annoying.

Q Yes, it's hard to hear isn't it?

B Yeah.

Q Yeah I'm with you there, yeah. Brilliant, that's really interesting, thank you. And I think again we've sort of touched on this, but do you have the parental controls on all the things that they use and on laptops and things like that?

A Well Saskia's is all built in because hers is a kiddies one. I think you put what you needed to put on her new one didn't you?

B Yeah.

Time 50:00

A Because they've only got like KidsTube, they can't get on proper YouTube and stuff like that.

B No, the other one you had to pay for didn't you ??? with KidsTube didn't we?

Q Yeah I remember you saying about that before.

A Yeah but ???

B Yeah it weren't a lot, it's ??? Microsoft one, where it's an Android.

Q And what is your anxiety there particularly, is it them seeing stuff they shouldn't see, or what do you...I think you were speaking about this before and I was interested, you talked about....you knew it was going to be suitable for kids. But I just wondered if you could sort of elaborate a bit on what you think it's...

B It's just that normally YouTube's just not filtered, because with normal YouTube you can pretty much view anything you want to a certain extent. If you've got an account you can view even more. But just with the kids one it's more filtered towards kids, so you don't seem to get as many...well you shouldn't get any kind of bad stuff on it.

Q Are you thinking about the sort of things that might be suggested, you know the algorithm it's suggesting in the right hand column, you know like films you might want to watch, that they might get on to stuff? Because if they're on kids stuff you'd think it....you know on proper YouTube I suppose you would think that it would suggest kids stuff. But you're imagining maybe some more adult content?

B I think they've even done it with, is it when they were watching Peppa Pig once, or something daft like that?

A My Little Pony.

B On My Little Pony, it weren't even My Little Pony's voice, it was someone else who did the voice over on it or something?

A Yeah.

Q Right, maybe somebody doing a bit of a send up or something of it was it? Or something a bit more sinister with it?

B I think ??? say adult words a lot, I can't remember now.

Q Right, fair enough.

B Obviously that's not filtered on proper YouTube so anyone can upload anything can't they?

Q Yeah they can. And it's that kind of thing that's in the back of your mind here about keeping it away.

A Yeah.

B Yeah, you don't want them stumbling on it though, ??? wanted to see ???

Q Yeah. And have you taught them to search on YouTube, on KidsTube I mean, or do you....

A They've taught themselves haven't they?

Q They've taught themselves, yeah.

B Yeah they've taught themselves.

A ??? say type in ??? or whatever, then she knows how to do it herself.

Q Yeah, when I was observing Saskia just in the class yesterday at school, and I must say she was absolutely on it in terms of Google searching. She was by far and away you know just very happy to type it all in, and I thought she was very skilled at it. Has she done stuff like that at home as well on her laptop, she seems very au fait with doing a Google search on a laptop.

A This year especially she's had different projects to do, so we've done them on the computer. So she'll search for....like done fact files because they've been learning all about like Titanic and stuff like that. She did her own newspaper report didn't you? Typed it all up herself. Showed her how to put pictures in to like....you know if you do it on like Google Docs and stuff.

Q So would that be like using the shortcuts to cut and paste, or with the mouse?

A I think she used the option of insert online pictures with the ??? It takes you to a search engine where you search for whatever you want.

Q For the pictures, yeah.

A Click the picture and it puts it in. So I don't think she's done copy and paste yet.

Q Well she was extremely competent with it yesterday, and was quick, and was doing some very good searches, it was fascinating, really good stuff. So a final set of questions about your general perceptions of new technologies then, and again I think we've probably covered some of this in other ways. Do you have any internet enabled toys?

B No we don't do we?

A No, probably when they were younger, like the little Leapfrog things what used to talk and stuff. She's got that bear thing hasn't she but she doesn't really use it now, that's an internet active one.

Q Yeah. And sort of things like augmented reality and virtual reality, do you have a sort of thing about things like that? Have you used things like Pokemon Go or anything like that?

A No we haven't really done that have we?

B No.

Q Is there any particular reason for that, or it's just it's not something you....

A It's never got discussed.

B No it's not something they've ever asked about have they?

A Missed that craze.

B There was a massive craze about it weren't there?

Q There was, Pokemon Go particularly yeah.

B Everybody round the park trying to ???

Q That's right, absolutely yeah. We live right by the park so we were practically falling over them. And there are some things like Geocaching and stuff like that that people do, you know. But is it because it's not really something you would do and therefore they're not suggesting it either?

A Yeah, it's not really been on our radar and they haven't mentioned it either have they?

B No.

Q Have you ever encountered VR, you know using VR headsets in....I don't know sometimes you find them in museums or you know experiences of one type or another.

A Only did....a lot of the rides in Florida were 3D so you had to put headphones on or look through the screen. Like the main attraction there which was the Flight of Passage one, you had to sit on like a...was it a bike? Was it Flight of Passage? And look through a screen.

C Yeah.

B It were ??? a seat weren't it.

A I remember one was that. Yeah I'm sure it was.

B Oh what do you call it?

C Yeah it were a bike.

B Was it Flight of Passage?

A Yeah.

C A bike, yeah.

Q So is that like a virtual reality experience of being on a bike, or were you actually physically sat on a bike?

C We were physically sat on a bike.

A You're physically sat on it but.....

B As though you were on a flying creature weren't it?

A Yeah. The ride is from the Avatar movie as though you are an actual avatar.

Q2 So you're sat on the bike but you had a headset, and so if you looked round it looked like it was a creature?

A Did you look around it? I think you had to go right forward and look on the screen, but you had proper metal glasses on as well. Oh it was amazing, really realistic. And a lot of the rides at Florida, and I think other theme parks, it's a really big thing now isn't it? Rather than your actual roller coaster it's all a bit more...

Q Yes, it's that suggestion via the VR and so on.

A And you do, you get all the feelings with it. I felt a bit queezy, drops and that in there isn't there?

B Yeah, and it tips you as well so that's like you're flying down rock faces and that.

Q Yeah. How did the girls react to that?

A They enjoyed it actually. We thought the little 'un....

B We thought Saskia wouldn't enjoy it, but she really enjoyed it. Like ??? big rides, we had to drag her on the Sleepy Dome didn't she, she was screaming ??? (inaudible) You'd go in, and you'd go in like a chamber and they were matching your face to an avatar, and then they say 'oh you've got some creatures on you, want to get these creatures off you', so high jets come out as though they're clearing them off you. So I thought she was having a meltdown at that point. But she didn't, she ??? and then obviously when she's seen what ??? you have to sit on them. You couldn't go two a ride, you had to like go on a single ride didn't you?

A Yeah, so we were a bit worried.

B And then that like pushed you right up. And she absolutely loved it ??? I thought she was going to scream blue murder ???

Q I mean I think that's quite a big decision as a parent isn't it, because you can't really help them, it is quite individuated like that and you have to make a judgement call whether

you think they're going to be able to cope, or it's going to be as you say, traumatic. But at the same time sometimes they can really surprise us.

B Yeah she really enjoyed it, I was really surprised to be fair.

A Yeah. I didn't want her to miss out after we'd queued up for two and a half hours.

Q Well that's true, yeah.

B She were going on it anyway!

Q Right, yeah. So just to finish off then, do you think....I mean we've talked about technology and we've talked about play, we've talked about creativity, about learning, so we're thinking about are you of the sort of mind that technologies are important for young people, and in what ways do you see them playing an important part in their lives if so?

B I think inevitably it's important just for communication wise. Probably not so much to play on it, then yeah, but not like communicating wise or anything like that.

A You can't really get by these days without technology can you because they use it so much in school as well, so I think you'd be hindering them if you said like 'no technology'.

B Pretty much become dependent on it to some extent don't you? It's even when we drive round and it's just that easy to get sat nav on your phone than follow a map, nobody uses A-Z road maps now do they, follow a route and stuff like that.

Q Do you ever think about that in terms of the example you are setting to the girls, I mean is it something you would watch, or is it just that you accept that it's now the new normal?

B I think yeah, I think it's just normal, I think it's just a progression.

Q And do you feel....when they use devices and they're on devices playing games and using apps and things, do you see that as valuable as the sorts of play that they're doing that does not involve devices and apps and technology? Are they comparable do you think provided they don't do all of one and not the other? Do you see what I mean? Do you value play on technology, do you see it as equal to play without in some ways?

A I think probably ??? play is more beneficial, but like I say in this day and age they do learn a lot from it don't they?

Q Yeah. Does that help to mitigate it a bit, you feel if they're learning something it's OK?

A Yeah. It's very one-sided isn't it now with this ??? amount of stuff isn't there about the impact of spending too much time on it. Yeah it's a hard one.

B It's just like an extension of a TV isn't it, what we used to do, we used to just sit watching TV.

A Yeah but it's more interactive I suppose isn't it?

B Yeah, you get more ??? but you get more feedback from it don't you ???

Q Yes. But if it sort of draws them in and so there is that worry about trying to make sure that they can stop using it and get a balance with other types of play.

A Yeah.

Q That's great, thank you. And I suppose following on from that, there's a question here about how important new technologies are for you, and in some ways you've sort of addressed this a bit, you know that it becomes part of your life, it's embedded in what you do without even perhaps thinking about it.

B Yeah.

A Yeah. I mean we're not....technology ??? like some friends we know who always have like the latest telly or phone or whatever. Like say with....

B Could always tell them to pick that TV, you know one of their ??? HD and everything, he took us ??? to pick one of them. It's all Smart TVs now isn't it, so we're always like a couple of steps behind to upgrade. 'Obviously then you'll be getting a Tivo', 'no we don't normally have TV mate'.

A Telly is as old as Stephanie, because I think we got that just before she was born. 10 years, it's not doing bad. But yeah you can't get away from technology these days can you?

Q No. But it sounds like you're striving to keep some sort of balance there and to regulate it a bit, you're not that bothered about keeping up with the Jones's as it were or anything like that.

B Oh no.

Q You're not necessarily out for the latest things.

A ??? the latest stuff. It's an expense that.

Q Yeah well this is definitely a consideration isn't it, yeah. That's absolutely fantastic, thank you. And the last question here is, would you like any advice or guidance to be....you know is there stuff that you don't feel is available to parents that would be useful to have in navigating this difficult, or potentially difficult digital landscape that our children are in? You know do you feel there's stuff that's missing that you could benefit from, or do you think it's out there and it's up to us as parents to...

A What do you mean, just like..?

Q Yeah I suppose are there any gaps in provision for parents in terms of parenting in the digital....you mentioned studies earlier so you're obviously quite aware. I mean do you have websites you go to or do you look up stuff, or do you....



A      Stuff you've seen I think. It's important for parents to be aware of the negative impacts it can have on your child sitting in front of a computer all day. I don't....I wouldn't say we need any education on it do we, but I'm sure a lot of people do because they might not understand how ??? bad it can be.

B      They were expecting everybody to have the internet in people's houses by such a date, well some people still don't have internet, I mean access to computers and stuff like that.

A      Yeah. Could do a lot more like internet safety awareness I think, companies, for children and parents.

Q      Yeah. And those negative impacts Katie, what particularly do you think about there, is it just the not being able to put it down addiction type of idea, or are there other things that you can say that are negative about....

A      Just mainly that I'd say that...I can't think of the word they use, which is very one-sided isn't it, so you're not...if you're just staring at a computer....

B      You like detach don't you from the world.

A      Yeah there's no interaction really there.

B      You'd be able to play with each other probably, ??? play and stuff like that.

Q      Yeah, so there's something about being face-to-face and interacting, being sociable with people in a room?

A      Yeah.

B      Yeah, just natural play.

A      They can be quite isolating can't they?

B      And ??? don't they, when they go upstairs and play, you know they make the house look like a bomb site.

Q      Yeah. Oh that's fantastic. Is there anything we've not asked you?

A      No I don't think so, no.

B      No.

Q      Fantastic. Thank you so much, you've been so patient with our many questions.