Materials for Story Stems

It is important that all characters, animals and props are roughly in scale with one another, so you would not have huge animals towering over small playmobil figures, nor would you have furniture which is either too small or large for the playmobil figures.

Characters

• 1 x Mother;
• 1 x Father;
• 1 x Neighbour (male);
• 3 x Children (female);
• 3 x Children (male)

In addition to a set of white characters, it is advisable to have a set of dolls of another ethnic group (e.g. Afro-Caribbean).

Do not use the playmobil babies. The sibling and friend child characters should be the same size as one another.

Animals

- Pigs (ie. Including3 – 4 adults and 2 – 3 piglets);
- Lions/Tigers (3 – 4 adults plus 2 cubs);
- Camels /Giraffes (2 large camels, 1 small);
- Cows (3 – 4 large cows, 1 – 2 calves);
- Crocodile (one only);
- Elephant (1 x large one with tusks and a down trunk)

If working with Orthodox Muslim, Jewish or Hindu Children, the interviewer may feel it necessary to replace the pigs or cows with sheep.

Props

• 1 x Wooden brick (approx 10cm long, 5 cm wide and 2.5 cm deep) to use as side of house, garden fence or a bed;
• 1 x Sofa (large enough for four family characters to sit on);
• 1 x Armchair;
• 1 x Television;
• 1 x Dining room table;
• 4 x Chairs/stools (for use with the table);
• 1 x Cooker;
• 1 x Jug*;
• 4 x Cups/beakers*;
• 1 x Frying pan;

- 1 x Football (we use a ball of blue tack);
- 1 x bathroom shelves/cabinet;
- 1 x wash hand basin;
- 1 x small piece of square paper

*NB: These can be made form play-dough, fimo clay or plasticene. All items must be scaled to be appropriate for size of characters.

Where to Purchase

Many parts of the Story Stems kit are available from major toys stores such as Hamleys, Early Learning Centre, Toyway, and Toys R Us. You can also order many of the parts through the playmobil website www.playmobil.com.

Farm animals may also be purchased through Brittons www.toyandmodel.com/farmanimal.html tel: 01492 514764

Zoo animals may also be purchased through Schleich http://www.mailorderexpress.com/Schleich.asp They can also be purchased from Safari (www.safariltd.com)

Animals also available from Hamleys stores, Toys 'R' Us or Toyway (www.toyway.co.uk)

Sylvanian families are good for furniture, families and animals. https://sylvanianfamilies.co.uk/

It is also worth looking for small accessories such as cups, jugs at small toy outlets.

Alternatively, it may be worth looking online (e.g. Ebay). Finally, one can be creative and make some of the props.