

[MUSIC PLAYING]

KAREN FOLEY: Hello, and this is the concluding session for our early childhood Student Hub Live event. Have you enjoyed the programme? Let us know by clicking yes or no on the interactive widget. I hope you have.

I hope you've learned an awful lot about some of the key themes, methods, and the structure of the qualification that you're about to embark on. We've had a lot of stuff going on in the chat. H.J., could you tell us some of the highlights?

H.J.: Yes, I think most of the stuff we're talking about at the moment is how we're using case studies. Zoe said that she started off a nursing degree and has taken her experience from that into the case study she's going to be doing. And Rita is saying she's surprised her own memories of childhood are overshadowed by present relationships by the children around us. I think we're very intrigued by this idea of mud play as well.

And Rita also says that she reckons middle school should do it as well. It shouldn't be just something that's exclusive, and perhaps we should have a go of it later to see how much mud we can find on the OU campus. But we also had a good discussion about children people have of their own or experiences working in nurseries, in schools, which a lot of people are doing, how they can apply the skills from case studies-- so seeing common trends and behaviour and things like that.

So very interesting. I think people got a lot out of these sessions. And if there's anything we missed or you want to come back to or think about after, you can always email us, studenthub@open.ac.uk. And I'm sure our fantastic guests would love to get back to if there is anything for them, and they will all be available in Catch Up, as well. So do remember that.

KAREN FOLEY: Thank you very much. And you've done a fabulous job. I'd like to thank each of our panellists today and ask for their final tips for students. And I wonder, Mannah, if I could start with you, because your mud play has inspired many of our students. So what would you say your tip would be, I guess maybe from a practitioner perspective?

MANNAH: I think wherever you're looking at children and you're going to be observing children, and you do in those case studies, do that reflective thinking that we've been talking about all the way

through. See how your feelings are linked up with what's going on for the children and their feelings. And just throw yourself into it.

Enjoy it. And plain creativity is fascinating to study. I'm sure all the students that are engaged in this will have a lot of fun alongside the hard work that's going to make them successful learners with the Open University.

KAREN FOLEY: Sue what would you say to represent a tutor view?

SUE: Well, I'm a tutor, so I'm going to say use your tutors.

[LAUGHING]

Seriously, we are the conduit between the materials and the academic content of the students' ability to actually meet the requirements. So why not use the fantastic resource?

KAREN FOLEY: Absolutely. And they'll always tell you to go away if you're asking too many questions, but that very rarely happens, does it? Excellent. So do you connect with your tutor as soon as they are allocated, which will be in the next week or so. And make sure you check out all your opportunities to attend tutorials as well and get those marked in the study calendar. Natalie, what would your advice be for new students?

NATALIE: I think students have already invested a lot of time and energy into getting this far, and we haven't even started the modules yet. So it is about making sure that you do think about the time and the space that you need to study, so that you can really engage with the module and the materials. Because they really are a fantastic resource, and you really will get a lot out of the module. But you have to make that commitment to be able to engage in it, and I know that can be really difficult.

I've studied part-time, full-time, while we're working, full-time as well. And we all have had some experience of that, so we know how difficult that is. But you'll get out as much as you put in. So if you can really try and make that space and time, it is really worth it.

KAREN FOLEY: Now, this is one event that you've had for your students as part of the induction programme. Tell us what else there is in store for them.

NATALIE: So next Monday on the 25th, at 2:00 to 3:00 PM, we are running an Adobe Connect session that will be online via the E109 and E110 and the qualification website. And that's going to be

on assessment. So we'll be looking at the way in which the assessments for both modules is structured and also thinking about that first TMA that comes fairly soon in the module. So we'll be talking about that.

KAREN FOLEY: Lovely. Well, Mannah and Sue and Natalie, thank you so much for being here today. I'm sure the students have found it incredibly useful. Anything else, as H.J. says, do drop us an email-- studenthub@open.ac.uk.

We're going to end our live stream now, but we have a programme starting in about five minutes at 3:00, which is all about primary studies. So if you've enjoyed some of this content, please do come along. There will be plenty more to talk about, and the focus, again, is on diversity.

So come along. You'll have to look in again because it's a new event. So we'll see you in about five minutes if indeed you're planning to stay. If not, all the best for your future studies.

Do check out our future Student Hub live events that are for re-orientation. We also have essay writing workshops. Those are open for all students. And you can see all of the events that we've got coming up over the next month on Student Hub Live website.

But thank you very much for participating, and that's all from us here at the Student Hub Live. Good luck with your studies, and we hope to see you soon.