

## TV Show Tips – Dora & Diego

Exploring the world with a preschooler is always an adventure. Their eyes grow big and their faces light up when they make discoveries about the world around them. It's not uncommon for parents' faces to light up too as they share in the magic.

Director of Early Childhood Education at The Children's Museum of Indianapolis Susan Michal says, "Preschoolers love to have opportunities to explore!" It's part of their social emotional development. "Children can further develop their independence when they are given open-ended time to explore and discover in a safe environment. They can use their own creativity to create their own meaningful adventures!"

Preschoolers need social emotional learning opportunities now more than ever, Michal says. "During this time of remote learning and social distancing from extended families, friends and neighbors, children need opportunities to identify emotions and practice social situations with others." They need opportunities to explore, create, and understand.

In Nickelodeon's hit preschool series *Dora the Explorer* and *Go, Diego, Go!*, preschoolers and their families explore the enchanting world of Dora the Explorer and her animal-rescuing cousin Diego. They can use tools like Map and Backpack while teaming up with friends like Tico, Isa, and Boots, the shows teach preschoolers fundamental concepts like colors, numbers, and shapes. They also touch on social emotional learning, including the value of caring for others through problem solving, sharing, and kindness.

The Dora and Diego show introduces Spanish words and phrases and introduces the audience to many of their traditions and customs.

Learning that can be expanded beyond exhibits about these shows include:

- Follow the rules.
- Discover ways to get back home if you're lost.
- Care for pets and animals
- Care for plants and gardens –sort things by colors and shapes.

Throughout the family's trip with Dora and Diego over the sea, through space, into the jungle and gardens, little ones can learn a lot about friends, teamwork and problem solving—concepts that aren't necessarily as concrete as the ABCs.