

# What Mummy Does, Daddy Does

HDB, HDBSU Host Little Ones @ Work



By

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Forty-three children visited HDB on the Little Ones @ Work programme on 3 December 2009. Besides getting to follow their parents around the HDB office, the children, aged from 7 to 12 years old, were also treated to activities such as caricature sketching, balloon sculpting and sand art workshop. The programme was hosted jointly by HDB Staff Union and HDB. Little Ones @ Work is an initiative of the NTUC Women's Development Secretariat which allows parents to spend some quality time with their children while the young ones are introduced to their parents' work environment.

## Bonding And Insight

**“The aim of this programme is to foster family bonding by providing an opportunity for the children to gain insight into their parents' work environment and to meet their colleagues.”**

Richard Tan, HDB Staff Union General Secretary

## Balance And Integration

**“This inaugural event signifies HDB's commitment in helping our staff to achieve greater work-life integration. We hope that through activities like this, staff and their families can have more opportunities to bond and spend meaningful time together.”**

Randy Lim, Housing and Development Board Director (Corporate Development)

## Peace of Mind = Productivity

**“It is important for employers and colleagues to recognise workers as parents and get to know their children. Helping workers to manage their family commitments and giving them peace of mind will also help to enhance their efficiency and productivity at work. The Little Ones @ Work programme aims to promote a healthy work life balance for working parents and I am happy that HDB and HDBSU are a part of this programme for the very first time.”**

Halimah Jacob, NTUC Deputy Secretary-General and NTUC Women's Development Secretariat Director

## Friendly Atmosphere At The Workplace

**“My daughter enjoyed visiting my office and meeting my colleagues. She said she liked where I am working. I hope there will be another Little Ones @ Work next year.”**

Hakimah Yusof, 38, HDB Administrative Executive (Housing Administration Department)

**“I like my mother's friends at work. They are very friendly. Now I also know what my mother does at work.”**

Nurharyany Asaren, Madam Hakimah Yusof's 8-year-old daughter

## Observing To Understand

**“It's a good opportunity for children to have some understanding of their parents' jobs, and why we so frequently say we are busy at work. When my son sat beside me at my work desk, he could observe me at work and take note of how many telephone calls I had to answer.”**

Lim Hock Chuan, 43, HDB Administrative Executive (Estate Administration & Property Department)

**“I enjoyed visiting my father at work. There are three things he does when he starts work. He will check his emails, the fax and the phone messages.”**

Lim Jun Kiat, Mr Lim Hock Chuan's 12-year-old son

## Getting A First Hand Insight Into Mummy's And Daddy's Jobs

For two children, tailing their parents at work was a refreshing experience. They discovered their parents' workplace, colleagues and other perks that came with being an HDB employee.



Madam Hakimah Yusof's 8-year-old daughter, Nurharyany Asaren, may seem shy initially but the warm and friendly environment at her mother's office put her at ease and kept a huge smile on her face as she toured the office to meet her mother's colleagues.

**Mother:** “This is where I sit and do my work everyday. I check this

weekly roster given to me and I check that there are enough people to work. After I check that the names of the staff are correct, I will print the roster. Come and meet my supervisor, Mr Lee. And Mr Chng here is another of my supervisors. My other bosses are in a meeting, so you can't meet them now.”

**Daughter:** “You have so many bosses and supervisors?”

**Mother:** “Yes I have a few supervisors because I have different duties in my job so I have different people to work with. I work with Mr Lee on service providers and parking matters. When there are illegal Malaysian vehicles, we need to clamp them and I work with Mr Chng on that.”

For Mr Lim Hock Chuan, besides bringing his son Lim Jun Kiat, to his office and workstation, he also introduced him to the recreational areas that HDB provides for their employees to de-stress.



**Father:** “Here's my desk. Basically, my work is similar to an enquiry line. I get telephone calls from the public and property agents and I help with their questions and give them advice about their applications. There is also a leisure centre here; we can go there and I can show you the places I sometimes go to when I'm on breaks. At the Nexus, we have the arcade, the game room and the darts room and we can play carom there.”

**Son:** “Which game room do you usually go to?”

**Father:** “This is the pool room which I sometimes come to during my lunch breaks. I also go to the gym on the other side.”