



# Summer

## PLAYGROUP SESSION PLANNER





# Play Spaces

## Theme: Summer

The weather is starting to get better, warmer days are here, and it's time to get outside in the sunshine and reconnect with nature. In summer we can visit a park, go to the beach for a paddle and collect shells. Have picnics, go for walks.

### FACT:

The Eiffel Tower in Paris grows in the Summer, as the hot temperatures expand the iron, and it expands by 6 inches.



## Creative Space

### Patty Pan Jellyfish

**CHILDREN WILL NEED:** Large Patty Pans (coloured if possible), coloured curling ribbon, eye stickers, sticky tape, scissors.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Cut lengths of the coloured curling ribbon, stick them to the underside of the patty pan using sticky tape. Put a small incision in the top of the patty pan, push through a length of ribbon or string, and tape underneath to secure. Stick eye stickers onto the patty pan.

**EXTENSION IDEAS:** CCurl the ribbon before attaching it to the patty pan or cut thin strips of crepe or tissue paper instead of ribbon.

*Use coloured foil patty pans for a different effect.*



# Play Spaces

Messy and fun outdoor activity!

Providing a diverse range of activities will support children's experience and whole developmental experience. Play spaces and activities can be set up as opportunities for free play.

## Sensory Activity *Sand Play*

**You will need:** A large tray, some clean sand, shells, small spades, tongs, scoops, small bowl, fish/crabs – if you don't have toy ones print off and laminate pics of fish & crabs.

### Instructions:

Pour sand into the tray, hide shells, fish and crabs in the sand. Using the spades and tongs see how many shells, fish or crabs you can find in the sand. Place them into the bowl and once you think you have found them all count how many of them you have found



## Outdoor Activity *Water Play*



**You will need:** Al arge trays/bowls, funnels, scoops, nets, floating toys, sponges. Place water in the trays/bowls, add the items and let the children explore the water.



# Play Spaces

How to set up your Play Space...

## Baby Play



Setting up a Baby Play area can be very simple. A soft mat and some pillows are a great start. Items to include could be a mirror on the wall, treasure baskets, musical instruments, surprise box with different texture materials or scarves. Board books and some open space so that baby can explore and roll.



## Quiet Corner



A sensory tent or area is valuable for children who are overstimulated and need some quiet time or space away from the group. You can include pillows, a blanket, sensory toys such as glitter wands, stress balls, bubble timers, poppits, wooden fidget toys, reversible sequins cushions, books and ear muffs.

## Social Space



Social spaces include role play opportunities where children can play out scenarios such as kitchens, cafes, supermarkets, doctors, florists, bakeries, airports, work bench with tools and many others. You may provide dress ups, items for sale or production or service. This can also include playing families and home making.



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## Builder's Corner



Ways to set up a builders corner include duplo, cars and train sets, loose parts play, box construction, wooden blocks, stacking and building games, cup stacking, building a fort with blankets, arranging materials on a lightbox, sand play and plasticine.

# Group Time

## Summer

Routines provide predictability for children

### Activities to include in your Playgroup Routine

#### Welcome Song



Niina Marni [Niina Marni]

Niina marni? Niina marni? >> Marni'ai. Marni'ai

Wanti niina? Wanti niina? >> Wardli-ana, Wardli-ana.

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#### Shared Experience



Ask the children about what they love most about Summer. Do they like going to the beach? Having Picnics, playing and exploring outside? Talk about Summer as a season – what happens in nature, the plants that come out in Summer, the yummy summer fruits we get to eat.

#### Story Time



Have a look at the local library or bookstore for:

Summer Time by Hilary Bell & Antonia Pesenti

Why I love Summer by Michael Wagner & Tom Jellett



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#### Goodbye Song



Where are the children? Where are the children?

Here they are! Here they are!

We had fun at Playgroup! We had fun at Playgroup!

Bye for now, Bye for now!

# Framework



Playgroup SA's Playgroup Planning Framework has been designed to ensure that there is an evidence-informed approach to the planning of activities and experiences. There are five play types drawing on Mildred Partens work, the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) domains of development are covered, and the five outcomes in the Early Years Learning Framework. The Programming framework ensures that children attending Playgroup are engaged, are participating and have a diverse set of activities and experiences to support them to thrive. When programming we make sure there are opportunities for purposeful play, we think development and plan for outcomes.

## Play Types

'Play' is synonymous with how children spend most of their time in the first few years of life. People of all ages benefit from play and play-based activities. Play is the central mechanism, providing a strong foundation for learning. When activities programmed at Playgroup align with each of the Play Types, children will enjoy a rich and diverse learning experience at Playgroup. When children interact and experiment in the Playgroup environment, they will better organise and make sense of the world around them as they play.



Functional Play



Construction Play



Role Play



Explorative Play



Creative Play

## AEDC Domains

AEDC developmental domains help to provide a common language for families, and educators to understand and discuss outcomes through a developmental lens when children engage in different play-based activities. The AEDC domains can be particularly useful for reflecting on how individual children's development is progressing, and programming activities that work toward achieving optimal outcomes for each child. Understanding these domains of development can help families connect the activities and experiences that will support children to develop the skills in preparation for transitioning into the pre-school and school environments.



Physical health and wellbeing



Social competence



Emotional maturity



Language and cognitive skills



Communication skills and general knowledge

## Early Years Learning Framework

The EYLF is used as the central framework in Early Childhood Education settings. The EYLF was designed to ensure that children in all early childhood education and care settings have access to meaningful activities and experiences that will support children's learning from birth through to five years. EYLF is Play-based and recognises families as children's first educators. A quality experience at Playgroup aligned with EYLF outcomes will ensure that children will have the best chance of positive experiences in the learning environment at school.



Outcome 1 Children have a strong sense of identity



Outcome 2 Children are connected with & contribute to their world



Outcome 3 Children have a strong sense of wellbeing



Outcome 4 Children are confident & involved learners



Outcome 5 Children are effective communicators