



National Reconciliation Week

PLAYGROUP SESSION PLANNER





Play Spaces

Theme: National Reconciliation Week

The theme for this year's National Reconciliation Action Week is Be Brave. Make Change. This week is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about our wonderful Indigenous Culture, to celebrate it and to show support to our First Nations people as they strive to achieve reconciliation in Australia.

FACT:

In 2000, 250 000 people walked across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to support reconciliation here in Australia.



Creative Space

Rain Sticks

CHILDREN WILL NEED: Paper towel rolls, paint, paint brushes, coloured/patterned paper, rice, tape and string.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Paint the roll and then dot paint it. Once dried, cut two large circles out of the coloured/patterned paper. Secure the circle of paper over one end with the tape and decorate with string. Pour a small amount of rice into the open end, and then secure that end with the second circle and tape/string.

EXTENSION IDEAS: Try dot painting an animal like a gekko, snake or emu onto your rain stick.

Use your Rain stick as a calming sensory toy. Listen to the rain, does it sound like your rain stick?



Play Spaces

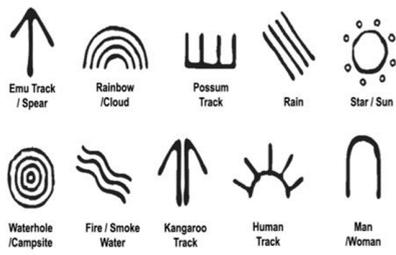
Fun and lively outdoor activity!

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 *Aboriginal Symbols*

You will need: A tray, sand and a copy of the symbols. See template page 7.

Instructions: Using their fingers, have the children draw the Aboriginal symbols in the sand. Say what the symbols are then flatten the sand again and try drawing the next symbol.



Outdoor Activity *Wombat Stew*



Make a Wombat Stew – using water, leaves, gum nuts, sticks etc, mix it all together in a big pot. No Wombats involved, just natural sources from your Playgroup outdoor area, or bring some bits in from a local park or your back garden.

What is the most fun part of making wombat stew?
The mixing, the mess, the mud?



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

National Reconciliation Week

Routines provide predictability for children

Activities to include in your Playgroup Routine

Welcome Song



Ninna Marni [Niina Marni]
Niina marni? Niina marni? >> Marni'ai. Marni'ai
Wanti niina? Wanti niina? >> Wardli-ana, Wardli-ana.
© Cherie Watkins



Shared Experience

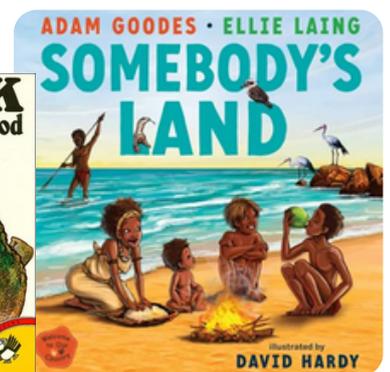
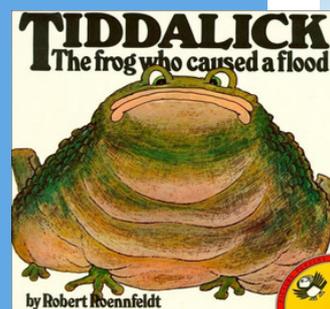


Yarning is about building respectful relationships. Move into a circle on the ground. Everyone is able to talk, say a word or sound one at a time with out interruption. Yarning circles are valuable opportunities to develop deep listening, sharing of knowledge and establishing rules of respect.

Story Time



Have a look at the local library or bookstore for:
Tiddalick the frog who caused a storm by Robert Roennfeldt
Somebody's Land by Adam Goodes and Ellie Lang

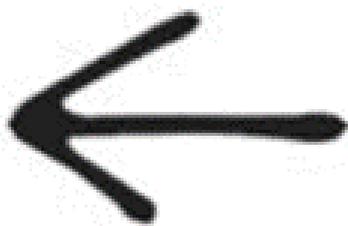


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Goodbye Song



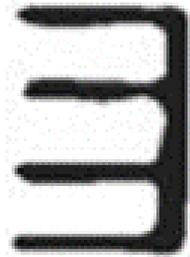
Where are the children? Where are the children?
Here they are! Here they are!
We had fun at Playgroup! We had fun at Playgroup!
Bye for now, Bye for now!



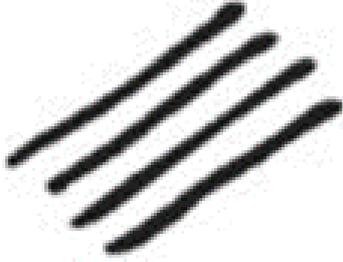
Emu Track
/ Spear



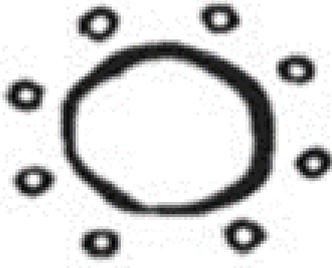
Rainbow
/ Cloud



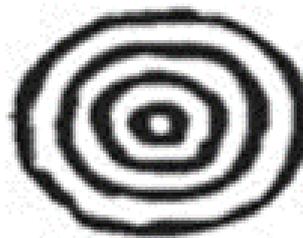
Possum
Track



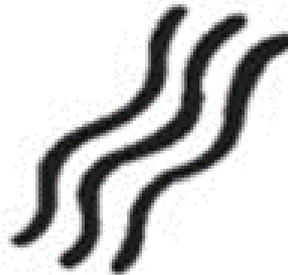
Rain



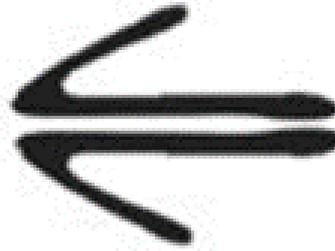
Star / Sun



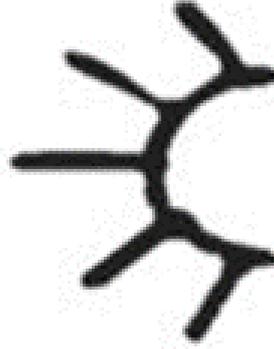
Waterhole
/ Campsite



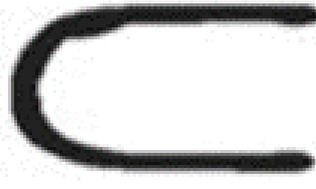
Fire / Smoke
Water



Kangaroo
Track



Human
Track



Man
/ Woman

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