



# HALLOWEEN

## PLAYGROUP SESSION PLANNER





# Play Spaces

## Theme: Halloween

Halloween is on the 31st of October each year and is celebrated all over the world. Houses are decorated in orange and black – the official colours of Halloween, with all sorts of spooky things like ghosts and black spiders. This is to let families know that they are open to trick or treating. Children love dressing up to go trick or treating, with chocolate being the most favourite treat of all.

**FACT:**  
New York holds  
the largest  
Halloween Parade  
in the world!



## Creative Space

### Halloween Monster Cups

**CHILDREN WILL NEED:** Paper Cups, orange, white, green, black paint, paintbrushes, eye stickers, pipe cleaners, black texta, black paper, scissors and glue.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** You can paint the paper cups in advance and then let the children choose which monster they would like to make.

Paint the paper cup in the colour you want your monster to be. Leave to dry. Cut mouth shapes out of the black paper, cut the pipe cleaner to length you need – short if the pumpkin topper or longer for spider legs. Once the paint has dried cut holes in the cup to insert the pipe cleaners, stick on or draw on the mouth, and stick on or draw the eyes. Then name your monster.

**EXTENSION IDEAS:** Cover the cups with tissue paper instead of painting them for texture and use other materials to decorate your monster and make them scarier.



*Use your  
Monsters into  
Halloween  
decorations for  
your home.*

# 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 *Halloween Slime*

**You will need:** 2 Cups of Lux Soap Flakes, 2 Litres of hot water, orange (red & yellow mixed together) or green food colouring, an old ice cream container.

**Instructions:**

Mix the soap flakes and hot water in the container well. Add a few drops of food colouring and mix well. Leave to cool down. Then pop on the lid and store in the fridge until needed. If you would like the texture to be runny add more water. As the children play with the slime, it will become thinner in texture.



## Outdoor Activity DIY *Monster Throw*



**You will need:** A large Box or corrugated cardboard. Cut a large hole, paint and decorate to make your monster. Light balls or small bean bags.

Place your monster outside, mark a line where the children stand a short distance from the monster and let them have 3 throws to see if they can get the balls into the monster's mouth.



# 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

## Halloween

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



Have your own little Halloween Party. Ask the children to come to Playgroup dressed up. Have your own little trick or treat session by hiding pictures of spiders and ghosts around your Playgroup or outside. Once the children have found them all, you could give them a little Halloween treat as they leave.

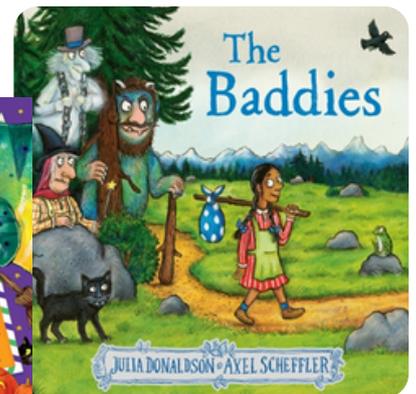
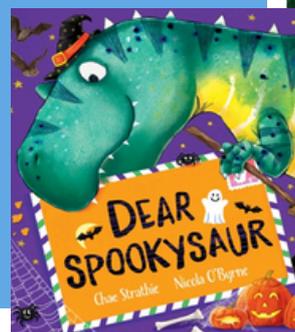
#### Story Time



Have a look at the local library or bookstore for:

Dear Spookysaur by Chae Strathie & Nicola

O'Bryne and The Baddies by Julia Donaldson



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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

# Row, Row, Row your boat!

How to play – The parachute becomes the oars of the boat with this song. Adults will be responsible for the pulling and pushing motion to make the parachute go back and forth like oars of a boat.

We are rowing for Commonwealth Gold!

**Row, row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily  
Life is but a dream  
Row, row, row your boat  
Gently up the creek  
If you see a little mouse  
Don't forget to squeak! (Do lots of  
squeaking!)  
Row, row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream  
If you see a crocodile  
Don't forget to scream! (Scream!)**

