



Easter

PLAYGROUP SESSION PLANNER





Play Spaces

Theme: Easter

Who doesn't love celebrating Easter! Eating lots of chocolate from the Easter Bunny and spending time with family and friends. What a special time of year it is. For some families they participate in religious ceremonies on Easter Sunday, and for other religions, Easter is celebrated at different times of the year.

FACT:
The first
chocolate Easter
eggs were made
in Germany in
the 1800's.

Creative Space

Easter Bunnies



CHILDREN WILL NEED: Paper cups, black pipe cleaners, eye stickers, pink pom poms, pink paper, shredded tissue paper, glue, scissors, sticky tape.

INSTRUCTIONS: Place the eye stickers onto the cup, with the open section at the top. Cut the pipe cleaner into 6 lengths and stick on under the eyes with sticky tape. Cut some ear shapes out of the pink paper and sticky tape at the back of the cup. Glue on the pink pom pom in between the whiskers. Place some shredded paper into the cup.

EXTENSION IDEAS: At the end of playgroup place a few small Easter Eggs into the tissue paper as an Easter treat. Add a handle to make a basket using strips of card and sticky tape or staple to the cups.



Use some patterned paper and cut out smaller ears and glue inside the bigger ears or use some cotton wool for texture.

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 *Easter Sensory Box*

You will need: tissue box/box, little chicks, plastic eggs, rabbits, chocolate easter eggs.

Instructions:

Place them all in the box, cut a hole in the lid big enough for the children to fit their hand in there. Let the children feel their way around the box and try to guess what it is before they pull it out.



Outdoor Activity

Egg and Spoon Race



You will need: Wooden spoons, plastic easter eggs. Place an egg on each child's spoon, have them line up and let them run to the finish line, while trying not to drop their easter egg.



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

Easter

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



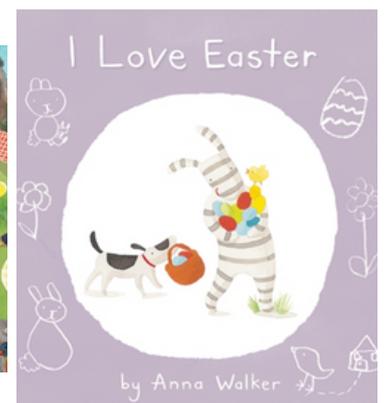
Use your Easter Bunny Cups and have an Easter Egg hunt. Collect the eggs in your cup. Hide eggs in your playroom or outside if you have the space. Hide plastic eggs outside if you are worried about anything getting to the chocolate, and then children can exchange them for the real thing. Ask the children what they like doing at Easter time. Do they have a family tradition? Read one of the Easter Books.

Story Time



Have a look at the local library or bookstore for:

The Big Bush Easter Egg Hunt by Colin Buchanan & Kate James and I Love Easter by Anna Walker.



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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