



Reconciliation Week

PLAYGROUP SESSION PLANNER





Play Spaces

Theme: Reconciliation Week

This year's theme is Be a Voice for Generations and encourages all Australians to unite and be a voice for reconciliation in our everyday lives – where we live, work and socialise. Reconciliation Week is held from the 27th of May till the 3rd of June.

FACT:

The dates for NRW remain the same each year. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey – the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.



Creative Space

Reconciliation Wreath

CHILDREN WILL NEED:

Leaf templates, wreath template. White/Coloured card, Aboriginal Symbols chart, paints, paint brushes, sticks, cotton buds or textas, crayons, pencils, scissors, and glue.

INSTRUCTIONS: Print off the leaf template to ensure that all children have at least one leaf to decorate. Print off the wreath ring and cut it out. Choose what you will decorate the leaves with ie paint, textas etc. Have a copy of the Aboriginal symbols on the table so children can, if they wish, decorate their leaves with the symbols. Cut out a leaf, decorate it how you would like, leave to dry. Once all leaves are ready, glue on to your Reconciliation Wreath and display at your playgroup.

EXTENSION IDEAS: Use leaf templates to cut out leaves from printed or textured material and paper instead.



*Add real leaves
and feathers to
add depth to
your wreath.*

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 Nature Playdough

You will need: Make a batch of playdough (recipe below). Collect some gum leaves, gum nuts and create with the playdough, try making some native animals like emu's, wombats, and kangaroos. Make some bush tucker.

Instructions:

Playdough recipe: 1 Cup of plain flour, ½ cup of salt, 1 Tbls of Cream of tartar, 1 Tbls of cooking oil, 1 Cup of hot water. You could add some lemon myrtle essence or eucalyptus oil to give the playdough a natural scent.

Mix dry ingredients in a bowl, in a jug place the wet ingredients, add wet ingredients to the bowl and using a wooden spoon, mix together well. Turn onto a dry floured surface and knead until a dough forms. Cover with plastic wrap or in an airtight container until needed.



Outdoor Activity Symbol Drawing



You will need: Sidewalk chalk, pavement or wall to draw on. A copy of Aboriginal symbols printed (see below). Show the children the symbols and have them draw them onto the pavement or wall. If you don't have an outdoor space, you could use paper to do the same.



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

Reconciliation Week

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



Sing the Niina Marni song. Decide on a place where the children would like to hang the Reconciliation wreath. Talk about the Aboriginal symbols and what they mean to the children, ask them what their favourite one was to draw. Talk about the Aboriginal Country that playgroup is on, ask them if they know what Aboriginal country they live on?

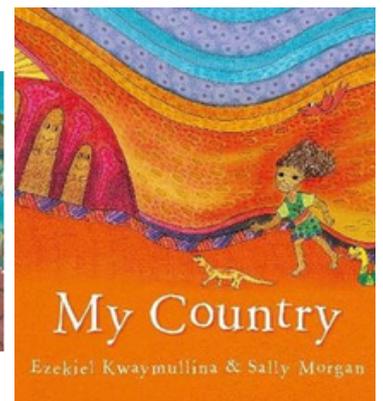
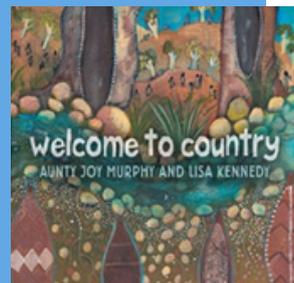
Story Time



Have a look at the local library or bookstore for:

Welcome to Country By Aunty Jo Murphy & Lisa Kennedy

My Country By Ezekiel Kwaymullina & Sally Morgan.



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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

Aboriginal Australian Art Symbols

Generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples were able to pass down important cultural stories by using symbols and icons portrayed in artwork.

Each symbol communicates and shares the meaning of their life on earth, important rituals, food and customs.

These symbols form an important part of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples art and can vary from region to region but are generally understood. Aboriginal art has been used for thousands of years to convey stories and messages that are extremely important to their cultures. Aboriginal artists create their works based on how the land was created, basing their subject matter mainly on patterns and animals.

The iconography used when applied to any surface then converts it to having religious or time-honoured meaning.



boomerang



bush berry



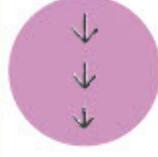
bush tucker



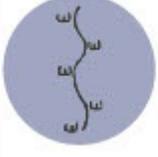
campfire



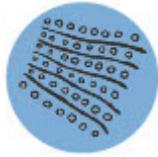
digging sticks



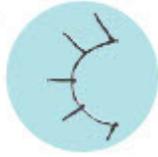
emu tracks



goanna tracks



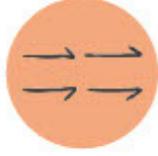
heavy rain



human tracks



hunting boomerang



kangaroo tracks



man sitting



meeting place



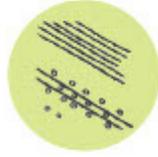
moving kangaroo tracks



people sitting



possum tracks



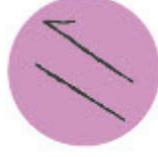
rain



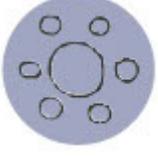
sandhill or cloud



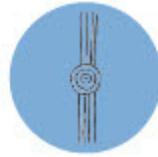
snake



spear



sun or star



travelling resting place



water



water holes



witchetty grub



woman



women sitting



4 women sitting



