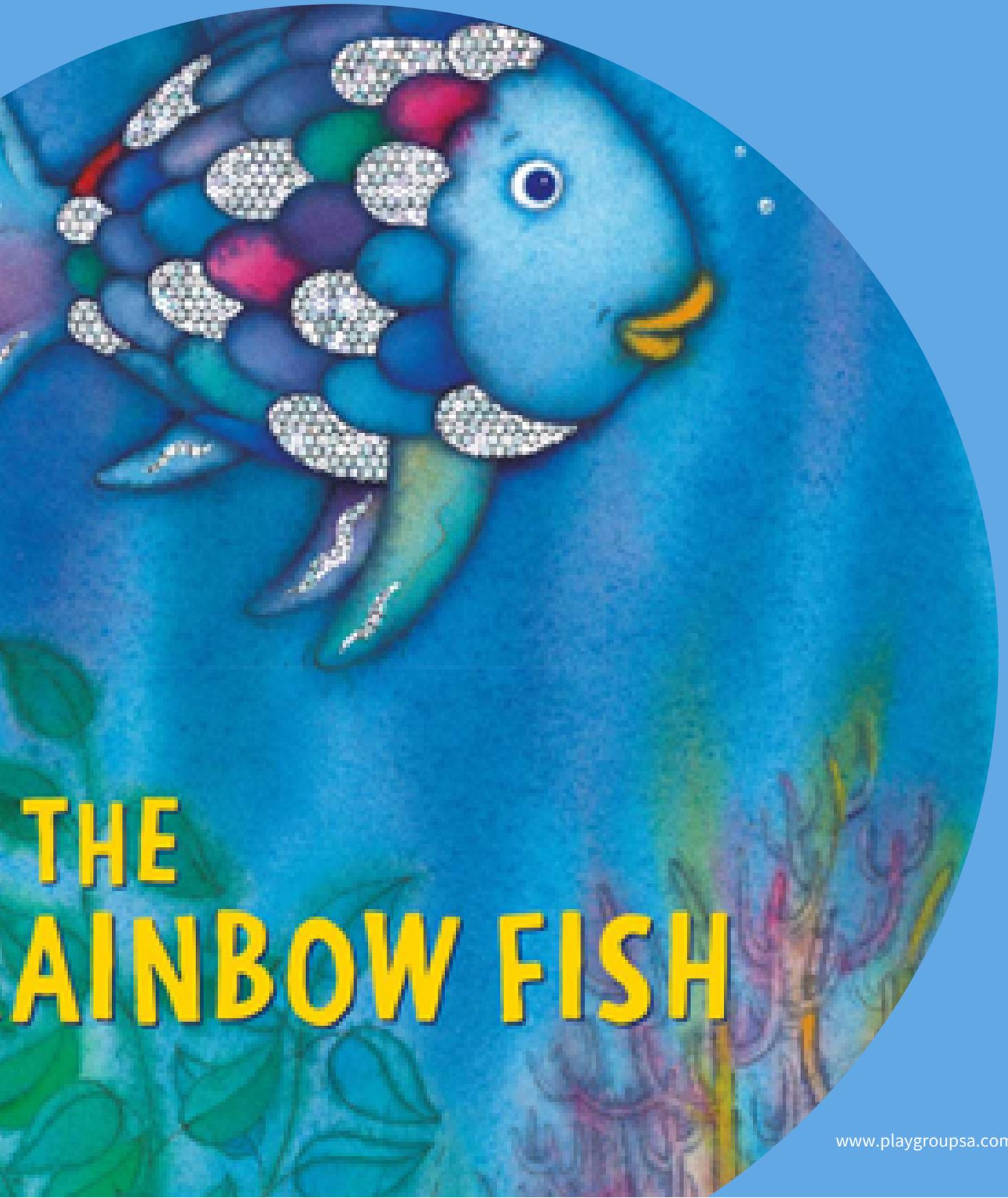




# The Rainbow Fish

## PLAYGROUP SESSION PLANNER



# THE RAINBOW FISH



# Play Spaces

## Theme: The Rainbow Fish

The Rainbow Fish has beautiful, shiny scales that no other fish seems to have. When he asked to share one of his scales with another fish, Rainbow Fish was very rude and said No! So, all the other fish refuse to play with him. The book talks about the importance of sharing with others and how this can lead to happiness.

**FACT:**  
There are 8  
books in the  
Rainbow Fish  
series.

### Creative Space

## Rainbow Fish

#### CHILDREN WILL NEED:

Paper plates, bright paints, paintbrushes, colourful paper/tissue paper/crepe paper, silver shiny wrapping paper, scissors, glue, sticky tape, eye stickers, black texta.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Cut a Triangle shape out of the plate for the fish's mouth, then sticky tape it to the back of the plate for the fish's tail. You can decorate your Rainbow Fish however you like. Using paint, or lots of colourful paper for the rainbow scales. Pre paint your fish and then add the rainbow scales. Once dry add the eye stickers or draw on using a black texta.

**EXTENSION IDEAS:** Use cotton wool balls dipped in paint to print the scales onto the Rainbow Fish, once dry add some silver scales.



*Use aluminium foil for the shiny scales instead of wrapping paper.*



# 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 Water Play

**You will need:** Tray or bowl, water, fish, sea animals, scoops, funnels. Fill the bottom of the tray/bowl with water, add in the fish and scoops.



## Outdoor Activity Rainbow Fish Sensory tray



**You will need:** Blue Rice (recipe below), Tray, shells, pebbles, fish, scoops, spoons, funnels.

**Instructions:** Set up your ocean tray with the fish, shells, pebbles etc. Let the children explore the feeling of the rice with their hands and scoops. Pour the rice through the funnels.

**Sensory Rice Recipe:** White Rice, Vinegar, Blue Food colouring, large tray or lidded container, large spatula. Add 2 cups of rice to your tray/container, pour over 2 Tablespoons of vinegar and a few drops of food colouring. Mix it all together using the spatula or put the lid on and shake if you have a lidded container. Add more food colouring if you want a more vibrant colour. Leave to dry.



# 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

## The Rainbow Fish

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



As the theme for The Rainbow Fish is about kindness and how being kind to others brings you happiness, another great book to introduce to the children is When I'm Being Kind by Trace Moroney. Ask the children and the families if they have received kindness from others and what that act of kindness was. Talk about how it makes you feel to be kind to someone else. What are some of the kind things they have done to others?

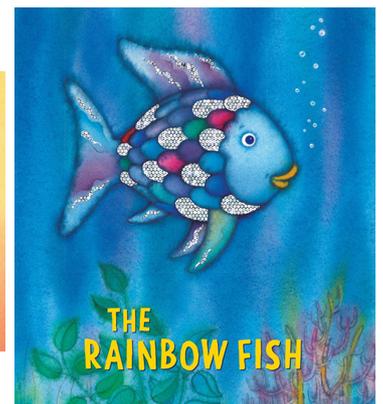
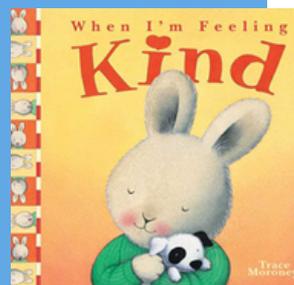
#### Story Time



Have a look at the local library or bookstore for:

The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister and

When I'm Feeling Kind by Trace Moroney



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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