



Playgroup SA

Playgroup Weekly Session Planner

Octopus

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CRAFT ACTIVITY

An Octopus is a sea animal that has a round body, bulging eyes and 8 long arms. They live in warm tropical waters and can weigh anywhere between 3 and 10kg. They communicate with each other by changing colour, they also use this to camouflage themselves from predators.

Craft activity: Paper Plate Octopus

Children will need: Any size paper plate, crepe paper, cellophane, or any other coloured paper, sticky tape, glue, scissors, paint, paint brushes, googly eyes or eye stickers. Hole punch, and string.

Instructions: Paint the paper plate in any colour (you may choose to paint some in advance and let dry), then add eight legs using the crepe paper, cellophane or other paper. Add some eyes.

Extension ideas:

Stick your Octopus to a blue piece of cardboard and using green pipe cleaners bend them to make seaweed and stick on to the card. Add fish stickers or pictures to make an underwater collage.

Fact: Octopuses have 3 hearts.



Learning Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners.



OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

Octopus Hop Scotch - Take some pavement chalk outside, draw a big Octopus with its eight legs, and have something the children can use as a marker (like a small bean bag) that they can throw on to a leg and let them hop, skip or jump onto the eight legs.

GROUP TIME IDEAS

Have the children bring their octopuses to the floor for group time, sing the classic Beatles tune Octopus's Garden (Lyrics attached).

Octopus's Garden

The Beatles

*I'd like to be under the sea
In an octopus' garden in the shade
He'd let us in, knows where we've been
In his octopus' garden in the shade*

*I'd ask my friends to come and see
An octopus' garden with me
I'd like to be under the sea
In an octopus' garden in the shade.*

*We would be warm below the storm
In our little hideaway beneath the waves
Resting our head on the seabed
In an octopus' garden near a cave*

*We would sing and dance around
Because we know we can't be found
I'd like to be under the sea
In an octopus' garden in the shade*

*We would shout and swim about
The coral that lies beneath the waves
(Lies beneath the ocean waves)
Oh what joy for every girl and boy
Knowing they're happy and they're safe
(Happy and they're safe)*

*We would be so happy you and me
No one there to tell us what to do
I'd like to be under the sea
In an octopus' garden with you.*

Songwriters: Richard Starkey

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Blue Ringed Octopus

BOOK SUGGESTIONS

Octopus's Garden by Ringo Starr

Little Mates Organised Octopus by Susannah McFarlane

