

# Creativity, imagination and connecting learning

## Resource booklet for families



This resource booklet has been designed to accompany the learning from home resources designed for teachers. Each booklet covers a different learning area and is designed to be used by families in the home so they can offer play experiences that will support their child's learning in this area. It also unpacks some of the learning that will happen.

The learning outcome that links to this resource booklet is:

### Learning Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

- Children develop dispositions for learning such as creativity, imagination and connection.

The learning concepts covered in this resource are:

- Creativity
- Imagination
- Connecting learning

**When children engage with the creative arts, they build on and extend their creativity and imagination. Children use their creativity and imagination to help improvise and adjust to the time, place and context they are in while exploring their ideas and thinking in different ways. These type of activities also help children draw connections between learning and transfer knowledge from one experience to another.**

Families are encouraged to investigate and explore play experiences incorporating local Aboriginal history and culture, when and where appropriate.

## Creativity

There are many play experiences that can be offered in the home to support children's creative abilities and extend their learning in a range of ways.

### Play experiences

- Painting:
  - Look at cloud shapes together and then encourage your child to paint what they see.
  - Mix water paints to create new colours.
- Craft:
  - Collect natural materials from outdoors and provide for children to create sculptures/artworks in their own way (leaves, pine cones, sticks, stones, sand or flowers).
  - Use empty food containers and boxes for collage with masking tape and glue.
- Drawing:
  - Place a flower in a vase near some pencils and paper.
  - Draw pictures to create a story book.

- Music:
  - Dance using soft scarves or material pieces to different genres of music.
  - Make up a dance routine to a favourite song.
- Drama:
  - Act out a favourite story book.
  - Make up their own story to act out.

### Questions to support your child's learning

- Tell me about your painting.
- Tell me a story.
- How do you feel when you dance like that?
- What is your story about?
- What were you thinking about when you drew or painted this?

### What will your child learn?

- Transfer their existing ideas to a creative context like painting
- Draw on their memory skills to revisit previous knowledge
- Build confidence and persistence through active engagement in creative play
- Recognise their own creative potential

## Imagination

There are many play experiences that can be offered in the home to encourage children to use their imagination to investigate and experiment with different learning concepts.

### Play experiences

- Storytelling:
  - Use artworks to piece together a story and support creation of a storyline using features of storytelling like including a front cover.
  - Dramatise the story using existing materials or create new figurines from household materials, such as pegs. Explore music as a backdrop for the dramatization.
- Dramatic play:
  - Use natural materials to create a fairy garden.
  - Set up a home corner like a house with dolls, cooking items, dress ups etc.
- Creative experiences:
  - Create slime and draw pictures in it.
  - Explore wet and dry sand to create sculptures.
  - Finger paint on different surfaces Use a range of tools to paint with like mashers, spatulas, forks, toy cars, toothpicks, toothbrush, sticks, leaves.
  - Add textures to paint such as fine sand or LUX flakes.

### Questions to support your child's learning

- Discuss similarities and differences about various painting tools: What works well? What else could be used?
- Tell me about what is happening in your house (home corner).
- What if we do this? What happens when? What do you think this will do? What do you think will happen when we add this to the paint?

### What will your child learn?

- How to use wonder and curiosity to think about what they know and are familiar with in new and different ways
- Using their imagination to develop new ideas and possibilities
- Critical thinking skills

## Connecting learning

- When your child engages in a range of play experiences at home, it provides them with an opportunity to connect their learning and make links between experiences.

### Play experiences

- Offer a digital medium (iPhone, iPad) to take photos of objects or things that the child likes – they can then use drawing or painting to represent what they have captured, why they like it and what they know about it and where they learned that information.
- Draw around shadows and discuss how the shadow moves and has a different shape at different times of the day. Record this information over time and ask your child what they know about shadows and the sun and what could be happening to cause the changes.
- Explore water painting on a range of surfaces such as concrete, paper or trees and watch the sun dry it up. Record what how long it takes on the different surfaces and ask your child what might be making a difference in the times.
- Explore the outdoor area - children may like to engage in representational drawing to express what they have found. Revisit these drawings and ask your child to sort the pictures into natural things or man-made things.

### Questions to support your child's learning

- Talk to your child about what they are interested in learning about, what they have learned about this in the past and what would they like to know more about.
- Why does that change or move, for example, the shadow, the sun?
- What can they remember about things they learned last week and how could they use what they learned then to help them now?

### What will your child learn?

- Making connections between experiences and expressing learning in different ways
- How to link different parts of their world together to make sense of it
- Understanding that their previous experiences shape their current thinking