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PLAYGROUP SA 1800 171 882 WWW.PLAYGROUPEAUSTRALIA.COM.AU/SA



Bedroom Makeover

This month, ABC Shops will stock an exclusive range of Gigggle and Hoot products. The release of this great new range of specially designed toys, games, clothing, accessories and books will make every day hootastic! One lucky winner will win the out-of-this-world "Gigggle Galaxy" quilt cover set which includes a single bed quilt cover and a pillowcase.

To enter, email competitions@playgroupsa.com.au with your name, phone number and tell us who your Playgroupers favourite Gigggle and Hoot character is.

Competition closes 12 August, 2014.



Be sure to check out Gigggle and Hoot's interactive website www.abc.net.au/abcforkids/sites/giggleandhoot

From the Playgroup SA Executive Officer...

Hello all, and welcome to another edition of ePlay news. It's been fabulous to see our members back enjoying playgroup after the school holidays. I hope that you have all been creative with your indoor play whilst the weather hasn't been favourable to being outside.

We have a number of workshops coming up for our members here at Playgroup SA this term. Messy Play is on the 7th of August. Perhaps some members of your playgroup can come along and gain some new ideas for exciting indoor play. Don't forget, you can always give Playgroup SA a call and arrange for the team to come and provide a workshop at your playgroup. This term, we also have our Book Week Playgroup. Why not come along dressed up and enjoy a great morning of reading fun. There's also the book week Book Fair Stall that will be held here at Playgroup SA. If your playgroup is in need of some new books, then come and look at the variety we have for sale.

A quick reminder for all playgroups that safety is everyone's responsibility at playgroup. Some of the ways we can ensure we are doing our best to provide a safe playgroup is to regularly check that all equipment is in good working order, the grounds and venue are checked for any hazards prior to playgroup commencing and by ensuring supervision by all parents/carers at all times.

A reminder to our members that you can call Playgroup SA at any time for further information, advice and support for any Playgroup issue. The team here at Playgroup SA love getting out and visiting the great work that all Playgroups do.



Carley Jones
Executive Officer, Playgroup SA

Researchers from Macquarie University, together with Goodstart Early Learning and KU Children's Services, are investigating what influences parents' child care choices.

We would like to find out what matters most to parents who:

- currently use formal child care
- no longer use child care because of quality concerns
- are thinking about using formal child care
- have decided not to use formal child care

Formal child care includes long day care, preschool/ kindergarten or family day care.

Choosing Child Care
What matters to you?

Find out more information or to complete this survey, go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/MQchilcaresurvey>

WIN \$100

1 of 8
Wish Cards



To request a paper copy of the survey, please contact Elizabeth Austin on (02) 9850 9939 or at elizabeth.austin@mq.edu.au

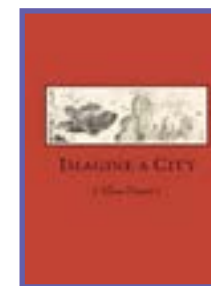
BOOK REVIEWS

WIN

a copy
of each book
reviewed here...

HOW...?
Email your
NAME + PLAYGROUP + CONTACT DETAILS
and the word 'BOOK PACK' to
competitions@playgroupsa.com.au
by **Friday 18 September, 2014**
for your chance to **WIN!**

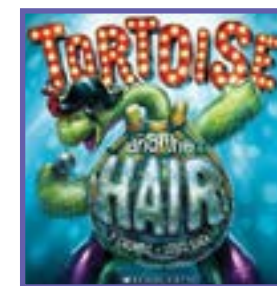
These books have been donated,
courtesy of SCHOLASTIC



Imagine a City
by Elise Hurst

This is a picture book that will engage children and parents alike - the pictures are so intricate and stunning that you will be enthralled - magic realism artwork for parents to enjoy.

In the city of imagination, anything is possible and an outing with their mother brings every kind of possibility to life for two lucky children.



Tortoise and the Hair
by P Crumble & Louis Shea

A hilarious story with a twist on the classic The Tortoise and the Hare.

Loads of wonderful animal characters and illustrations that are filled with funny details for children to spot. Plus, who doesn't love a book that rhymes?



Juicy Juicy Green Grass
by Peter Combe

Remember Peter Combe?

This book is fun and cheekily illustrated. It includes four of Peter Combe's catchy tunes for children, parents and carers to sing along to (includes CD)!

Join in the fun and read and/or sing to Juicy Juicy Green Grass, The Silly Postman, Tadpole Blues and Red Says Stop.



Poppy Cat
by Sara Acton

A beautifully written and illustrated book about a young girl and her cat. A perfect story for families with a cat / cat lovers.

Poppy Cat likes to copy everything her owner, a playful little girl does. And at the end of the day they both love nothing more than curling up together on the sofa.

Congrats BELINDA THOMPSON (and family) from Netley Kindy Playgroup for winning the Edition #3 Book Pack!

BOOK WEEK



Playgroup

THURSDAY 21 AUGUST
10AM - 12PM

Playgroup SA Playroom
91 Prospect Road, Prospect

Come along to our special Book Week Playgroup for Playgroup fun and book week themed craft activities, snack time, song time and goody bags. Book Fair books also available for purchase.

FREE PLAYGROUP SESSION
RSVP is essential to Playgroup SA on 1800 171 882
Open to Playgroup SA Members and the general public with Children aged 0-5 years.

Come dressed as your favourite book character or garden bug.



BOOK FAIR GARDEN
CATCH THE READING BUG

CATCH THE READING BUG

This year we'll be celebrating Book Week (Saturday 19 August to Friday 22 August) with a Book Week Playgroup in our Prospect Play Room. We'll be focusing on the national Book Week theme of 'Connect to Reading' with the Scholastic Book Fair theme 'Catch the Reading Bug'.

Come along or celebrate Book Week with your Playgroup.
We've come up with some garden-themed dress up ideas that you might like to try...

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

- Dress as a caterpillar by wearing the colour green (t-shirt/jumper and leggings/tights/pants). Make antenna by attaching two pipe-cleaners to a clear headband and attaching pom-poms to the top ends of the pipe cleaners. Tape or pin pictures of the foods the hungry caterpillar ate.
- You may like to dress as the butterfly from the story. Make butterfly wings by painting and/or decorating wings cut from a large piece of cardboard. Use pieces of elastic looped and attached to the wings to thread arms through.



Other Dress Up Ideas

- You can also attach pom-poms, foam balls or cotton balls to pipe cleaners and thread them through a beanie instead of a headband.
- Using the butterfly wings idea, cut different shapes from cardboard to create a snail/turtle shell, ladybug, bee, fly, bird, owl
- Make masks from cardboard and attach with thin elastic or attach the mask to a pop-stick for children to hold over their face.
- Use a cheap pillow case in the colour you require, cut out holes for the child's arms and head and use a belt or long piece of material to hold it in at the waist. This provides a base and you can add whatever decoration your child would like.
- Dress as a bookworm. Wear green, a pair of large glasses and a bow-tie. Carry a bag of your favourite books / a bag with pictures of your favourite books.



When you **ignite** the spark of creativity early in life, children go on to do **magnificent** things!



crayola.com.au



Sophia
Future Astronaut!

PLAYGROUP @ THE ZOO

FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER, 2014
10AM - 2PM  FROME ROAD, ADELAIDE

featuring:

Children's Entertainment
inc. The Amazing Drumming Monkeys
Playgroup Activities and Information
Jumping Castle Face Painters
Zoo Attractions Giveaways
and MORE!

purchase tix

online or at the gate with
Playgroup SA Membership Number
\$12.50 per adult (children under 5 free)
non-members welcome at
normal zoo prices.

Click HERE to purchase tickets



PLAYGROUP SA'S ANNUAL PLAYGROUP EVENT
celebrating Playgroup in South Australia

Win your Adelaide Shores stay FREE! The ultimate family fun weekend

Are you a Playgroup SA Member who is coming to **Playgroup @ the Zoo** on November 7?

Plan on staying an extra night to attend the Christmas Pageant?

You could win your stay FREE!

Playgroup SA Members who book a stay at Adelaide Shores Caravan Park or Resort for 2 or more nights for **Playgroup @ the Zoo** will be automatically entered into the draw to win the first 2 nights of their stay for **FREE!**

Enjoy all the great facilities Adelaide Shores has to offer including direct beach access, SPLASHZONE, jumping pillows, go karts, playgrounds and more! Getting to the CBD is easy, with direct public transport links!



WINNERS ANNOUNCED 31 OCTOBER!

Terms & conditions

- This competition is only valid for stays of 2 nights or more
- Booking must include 7 November 2014
- Valid to Playgroup SA Members upon booking only. Members must quote Member Number
- Phone and email bookings only
- All guests must secure their reservation as usual by paying a deposit of their first nights stay
- The value of the winner's first 2 nights stay will be deducted from their total bill
- If the winner's stay is only for 2 nights, their first night deposit will be refunded
- Normal reservation terms & conditions apply



**Don't miss out.....
book now!**

Phone 1800 444 567

Email caravan.park@adelaideshores.com.au

Resort | Caravan Park | Golf | Events | Sport | Boating

Email resort@adelaideshores.com.au



Spring Garden Craft Ideas

With spring just around the corner, we have some spring garden craft activities for you to try with your little ones.

On a nice, spring day you could go on a nature walk around the garden or a park and see what plants are flowering , you may even find some bugs and insects.

You could write a list of what you find or have a checklist of what you can look for e.g. a flower, leaf, tall tree, stick, bark, ladybug, caterpillar, butterfly.

How does a Caterpillar Go?

(Hold one hand out flat and create a caterpillar with a finger from your other hand)

How does at Caterpillar go?
Dear me does anybody know?
How does a Caterpillar Go?
On a cabbage leave the whole day long

Here is a beehive

Here is a beehive (create a fist with your hands)
But where are the bees?
Hiding inside where nobody sees
See them come flying out of the hive
One, two, three, four, five

Buzzzzzzzz, buzzzzzzzz, buzzzzzzzz

Ladybugs

Have fun creating a variety of coloured bugs.
Trace around a circle shape on a piece of black paper/card and also on a piece of coloured paper/card. Cut out circles and then cut a small arc out of the coloured piece. Glue together. Use dot stickers for spots, and add googly eyes or just draw them on.



Patty Pan Spring Flowers

Use coloured patty pans to create spring flowers. Experiment with cutting the patty pans into different shapes and gluing different colours together. Use smaller patty pans, pom-poms, cotton balls, foam or felt pieces for the centre of the flowers. Attach flowers to pop-sticks and add leaves cut from paper or green patty pans.

You could extend this idea and create a garden. Cover a cracker box with green paper, poke some small holes in one side and stand up your flowers.

Tulip Paintings

Pour some paint colours onto a tray or use an ice-cream lid. Using a fork put it into the paint and press it onto paper to create tulip-shaped flowers. Use a paint brush or your finger to paint stems.



The Ants Go Marching

The ants go marching
one by one. Hoorah! Hoorah!

The ants go marching
one by one. Hoorah! Hoorah!

The ants go marching one by one;
The little one stops to suck his thumb,
And they all go marching
down into the ground
To get out of the rain.
Boom, boom, boom!

Other Verses:

Two by two... The little one stops to tie his shoe
Three by three... The little one stops to climb a tree

Four by four... The little one stops to shut the door
Five by five... The little one stops to take a dive
Six by six... The little one stops to pick up sticks
Seven by seven... The little one stops to pray to heaven

Eight by eight... The little one stops to roller-skate
Nine by nine... The little one stops to check the time
Ten by ten... The little one stops to shout
"THE END!!

..... Have fun singing some songs about insects that can be found in gardens

Read a Story

It is never too early to introduce children to the enjoyment that can be gained from reading. Reading books with children provides them with important information about how written language works. They find out about the way to hold a book and how to turn the pages, see what written words look like, and that you read from left to right and top to bottom.

If you have the space available at Playgroup, display a variety of books for the children to look at and talk about. Include some cushions to make this area comfortable and inviting.

When introducing stories at Playgroup, parents/carers may choose to read to only one child, a small group, or the whole group together. Choose a book with a story that is appropriate to the developmental level and interests of the children. Children of Playgroup age usually have limited attention spans so stories generally work best if they are only short. Illustrations also help to maintain children's attention – there are many beautiful children's picture books available. Some of the children may have a favourite book they would like to share at Playgroup. You could also choose to select a book from your local library.



BOOKS & STORIES



Tell a story in your own words

Try telling the children a story without reading from a book. It doesn't have to be word perfect but be sure you know the storyline. This may encourage children to attempt retelling stories in their own words, and then make up their own stories.

Extension ideas...

Encourage the children to act out stories by having some dress ups and pretend play props available for their use.

Make up your own Playgroup story! Photos of members could be used to illustrate it.

Use musical instruments to add sound effects to stories.

Tell stories using felt or magnetic pieces and board.

Draw a Story

Children will enjoy watching stories being illustrated while they listen to them being told. Use a large sheet of paper so that everyone is able to see. This could be attached to an easel, or stuck to a wall.

You might like to start with a story that the storyteller and the children know well. Stories which end up where they began, eg. Pamela Allen's, 'A Lion in the Night', work especially well.

This method of storytelling also lends itself well to made up stories, eg. a story about the children at Playgroup. Encourage the children to come up with their own ideas for characters, and the story line, while an adult draws. This is a good opportunity for the parents/carers to model good listening skills.

Because young children's attention spans are limited, this is an activity that could carry on in short bursts over a period of weeks. Perhaps there could be one or two drawings done at each session, and then all the pictures put together in book form when the story is complete.

Extension ideas...

Encourage the children to retell stories using the drawings done during story time.

Use the drawing as a guide in setting up obstacle courses that the children can use in dramatising the story.

Encourage the children to have a go at drawing stories themselves by having the paper on the easel and some drawing materials in the book corner or storytelling area. Ask them to tell you a story about their picture.

GARDEN UPGRADE!

When Marion Steiner Playgroup wrote their Marion Community Grant application to seek the development of a sensory nature trail and frog pond for their Bush Playgroup and Sheidow Park School they had no idea how wonderful the project would end up turning out to be. Parents and carers had BIG dreams and with the help of Evette Sunset and her vision and knowledge (and hard work!) they were able to turn these dreams into a reality.

The amazing Nature Trail that has been created would not have been possible if it was not for the contribution, whether it was through support, encouragement, donations or hard work and sweat, of Playgroup caregivers who assisted in making this happen!

The first playgroup session held there upon return from holidays was an absolute delight...!

Playgroup adults and children were walked through the improved area and quickly branched off to whatever took their interests - with the saw dust and sand ponds being the biggest hits. It was especially all brought together by the learning circle, which made song and story time so much better (they were even able to 'put the kettle on' the fireplace with Polly before Suki took it off again)! Having the circle brought reverence to the story as everyone had their place in time for the story teller to begin. Naturally, none of the children wanted to leave!

Included is a thank you from the Principal of Sheidow Park School that gives a glorious snapshot of the reaction of the school's staff, students and parents when they first saw the trail on Monday. We hope that contributors reading this get a glimpse of how important your contribution has been!

For those of you who have not seen the 'finished' product (bearing in mind that there will be more additions to come) enjoy these photos, although we encourage you to visit the school to see the site as the photos do not do it justice. This is a Bush Playgroup who feel very lucky indeed to have such an amazing resource!

Thank you and well done to everyone involved.



To the Playgroup team,

What a great day it has been for our school and for our community. How I wish you could have seen the looks on the faces of the staff when they toured the area at recess time with Heather explaining all the beautiful areas you so caringly created. One of our staff members even had a tear in her eye and said "I just cant understand why we didn't do something like this years ago". They all instantly saw the possibilities for creative and imaginative play - It was beyond their wildest imagination that this could be done in 2 short weeks. And I have to agree. It's a beautiful learning environment for the children. I think that all the classes were out there today with their teachers, exploring and imagining possibilities that weren't there just 2 weeks ago. There were great groups of parents and children back at the nature trail this afternoon. They'd been told by the children how wonderful it was to have so much to do. A little reception girl whizzed past me jumping on the rocks saying, "I just love this garden. Love it." Some parents had trouble dragging their kids away to go home. It's truly a beautiful space and we all thank you for all your efforts and I know we will continue to thank you for years to come. You and all your friends and families are amazing!

I also need to thank you for the beautiful flower arrangement that arrived this afternoon. It was so unnecessary as I feel so honoured that our school is one of the recipients of this grant and that I have had the opportunity to work with all of you!

Jenny x

playgroup Workshops 2014

Playgroup Members
& Coordinators
\$10 inc GST

Non Playgroup SA
Members
\$35 inc GST

Crèche
Available

Enrolments / Enquiries:
Playgroup SA 1800 171 882

* Bookings essential to secure
your place. Registrations 15
minutes prior to course
commencement time

Coordinators Workshop

Are you a new coordinator, or thinking about starting a Playgroup? Then this course will provide you with all the info you need. Including tips on how to effectively run a Playgroup, play ideas and the value and benefits of play. This is a perfect opportunity to start building Playgroup support network with both Playgroup SA staff and other coordinators attending the workshop.

10am - 12:30pm
Wed 13 August | Thurs 16 October

Messy Play Workshop

Find out the value and benefits of messy (sensory) play, gain age appropriate play ideas that will assist with children's development and overall, have fun.

10am - 12:30pm
Thursday 7 August, 2014

Make & Play Workshop

An opportunity for fun to MAKE and PLAY, create and share ideas and activities using homemade, recycled and inexpensive materials - for the Playgroup and the home. This workshop will explore the developmental process of creating your own play resources and will feature discussions about the types and categories of play, tips on how to create interactive play environments and hands on fun making toys!

10am - 12:30pm
Thursday 4 September, 2014

Christmas Craft Workshops

Find out the value and benefits of messy (sensory) play, gain age appropriate play ideas that will assist with children's development and overall, have fun.

10am - 12:30pm
Thursday 6 November, 2014



Accredited Courses 2014

Child-Safe Environments (Mandatory Reporting)

Learn about the issues of child protection and gain your certificate in Child-Safe Environments (CSE).

When: Thursday 19 June, 2014,
Thursday 11 September, 2014
Thursday 13 November, 2014
Time: 9:00am - 4:30pm
Cost: Playgroup SA Coordinators: FREE
Playgroup SA Members: \$25
General Public: \$75

In order to be a qualified mandated notifier within the education system in SA, teacher registration requires all persons complete Child-Safe Environments in addition to the school specific RAN-EC online training (implemented October 2013)

Accredited Senior First Aid

This nationally recognised one day practical course will provide you with everything you need to know to provide first aid response, life support and the management of casualty(s) and the incident until the arrival of medical or other assistance.

In preparation of the one day course, you will be required to complete an on-line workbook*. Once you have completed this, you will need to provide your certificate of completion at the practical day.

When: Thursday, 18 September 2014
Time: 9.00am - 4.30pm
Cost: Playgroup SA Members: \$100
Non Members: \$131

*Options available for those with no internet access

Performing CPR

A three hour practical course that will teach you everything you need to know to perform CPR.

When: AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
Cost: Playgroup SA members: \$40
Non-members: \$61

Enrolments / Enquiries:
Playgroup SA 1800 171 882

* Bookings essential to secure
your place. Registrations 15
minutes prior to course
commencement time

all costs
include
GST





Before



After



OLD COTTAGE PLAYGROUP Improvements...

Last month we were successful with our grant application to Rotary Club of Noarlunga East to upgrade our garden to a Sensory & Edible Garden. Our wish was to transform our garden by painting the wine barrels, planting fragrant herbs, and re-introducing our vege patch to our members. We also wanted to include a music wall with pots and pans attached to it for the kids to make their own music.

Following a meeting at the Old Cottage with Graham and Tony from Rotary, we agreed on the work to be completed as well as a special project – building a new sandpit.

We mapped out the work and time we thought it would take and put the call out for volunteers to assist with the work. This outside work coincided with inside works we had negotiated with the Onkaparinga Council – new cupboards, flooring, replacing sewage pipes and a fresh coat of paint.

Over the course of 2 weeks, we removed the old wooden sandpit, centred and re-concreted the swing set, painted our wine barrels and planted new flowers, succulents,

herbs and vegetables - and a music wall has been erected. Inside was painted, flooring repaired, and all of the toys have been scrubbed clean and packed into our new cupboards.

The area we mapped out for the new sand pit had a tree for shade, but that tree was dying so down it came. We started digging to set the posts for the sand pit and found a drainage ditch, and the work went on hold again. Council engaged a plumber to sure the site whilst they were on site they fixed our storm-water drainage, and we continued on. But we ran out of time and had to open, so the sand pit is currently secured and waiting completion (which we hope to have done by mid August).

This project would have cost us in excess of \$8,000 if it weren't for the kind donations, discounts, support and volunteering provided by Onkaparinga Council, Rotary, Outback Sleepers Australia, Lonsdale Sand & Metal, Pimpala Landscape Supplies, Mitre 10 Reynella, members of our Playgroup & the Committee and their extended families. From the bottom of our hearts we say Thank You.



Playgroup SA Membership:

Membership is compulsory under the terms of affiliation for all Playgroups.

Please note that if there are families attending your group that are not current Playgroup SA members, your Playgroup is at risk. If an incident or accident occurs at your Playgroup, an insurance claim may be considered void for your entire group. Our friendly staff are happy to answer any questions regarding your Playgroups membership status or the membership process.

Call us on Free Call 1800 171 882 for more information or check out our website www.playgroupaustralia.com.au/sa