

# ePlayNEWS



PLAYGROUP SA 1800 171 882 | [WWW.PLAYGROUPAUSTRALIA.COM.AU/SA](http://WWW.PLAYGROUPAUSTRALIA.COM.AU/SA)

## Want to know where your LOCAL PLAYGROUP is...?

Call us on FREE CALL **1800 171 882** or email  
**info@playgroupsa.com.au** and we'll send you a detailed  
list of Playgroups in and surrounding your local area  
(including days, cost, times, coordinators contact details, etc).

OVER 300  
Playgroups  
in SA

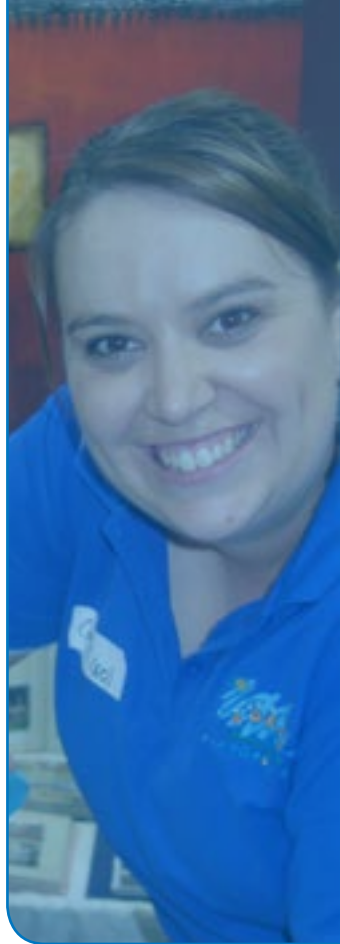
*As a Playgroup SA Member, you are entitled to attend as many Playgroup  
SA Affiliated Playgroups as you wish... so, why not try some others?*

### IN THIS EDITION...

- 2 From the Executive Officer
- 2 PBC Expo Adelaide - FREE Ticket Offer
- 3 Summary of Events 2015
- 4 Summer Craft Activities
- 6 A Song of Sunshine
- 6 Bubbles
- 7 Waterplay
- 8 Book Reviews (+ **WIN** a Book Pack)
- 9 Early Bird Competition (Tumby Bay Holiday)
- 10 Playgroup SA Workshops 2015
- 12 Playgroup Workshop Enrolment Form
- 12 Membership & Affiliation Information



# Happy New Playgroup Year 2015!



## From the Executive Officer...

I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to the start of another year at Playgroup! We hope that all families enjoyed their Holiday Season and are looking forward to another year of great Playgroup fun and activities.

All affiliation forms have now been sent to Playgroups. If you haven't received your affiliation or subsequent affiliation pack, please do not hesitate to let Playgroup SA know. If you are new to Playgroup in 2015, then please don't hesitate to give Playgroup SA a call and we can help you locate the nearest suitable group. I'd like to give a very big welcome to all new Playgroups in 2015!

Everyone here at Playgroup SA is madly getting ready for what will be a busy year ahead. We have new workshops on offer (see pages 10 & 11), plus all of our usual events and an exciting new family fun event in Mount Gambier for National Playgroup Week. Our Playgroup Support & Development Officers, Laura and Mel, have been busy getting out to visit playgroups already - having completed trips to Naracoorte and Roxby Downs this month. If you would like a visit from Playgroup SA, please give us a buzz on free call 1800 171 882 and we'll see what exciting new activity we can bring to life at your Playgroup.

Just a quick note to Coordinators to check their inboxes for the next Coordinator's Newsletter explaining the changes to the Police Clearance process.

We look forward to supporting all our wonderful Playgroups and Playgroup Members throughout 2015!

*Carley Jones*  
Executive Officer, Playgroup SA



## What's happening @ Playgroup SA in 2015?

### Playgroup Events at Playgroup SA Head Office

#### FREE themed Playgroups...

RSVP'S ESSENTIAL TO PLAYGROUP SA - 1800 171 882

#### EASTER PLAYGROUP - Tuesday 31 March

10am to 12pm  
Playgroup SA Play Room - 91 Prospect Road, Prospect

Celebrate Easter with other Playgroup families at this Easter themed Playgroup with fun activities and songs, stories, fruit time. Includes a special activity provided by Bunnings Prospect!

#### BOOK WEEK PLAYGROUP - Thursday 27 August

10am to 12pm  
Playgroup SA Play Room - 91 Prospect Road, Prospect

Books Light Up Our World is the theme for Book Week (22 - 28 August) 2015. You're welcome to come along to this themed Playgroup and celebrate the many benefits of reading with children.

#### TWILIGHT PLAYGROUP - Friday 30 October

5pm to 7pm  
Playgroup SA Play Room - 91 Prospect Road, Prospect

In celebration of Children's Week (24 Oct - 1 Nov) 2015, we invite families to come along to Playgroup and CELEBRATE CHILDREN at this special event held outside of business hours - so that working parents/carers can enjoy the Playgroup Experience as well. Includes a sausage sizzle and song time provided by Kindermusik.

#### CHRISTMAS PLAYGROUP - Thursday 3 December

10am to 12pm  
Playgroup SA Play Room - 91 Prospect Road, Prospect

Well, it's nearly the end of the Playgroup year - but don't despair because Christmas Playgroup is always so much FUN! Get excited for the upcoming Christmas period with this special themed Playgroup.

March 23-29

### National Playgroup Week

Playgroups are one of the most popular and enduring grass roots movements for families with young children, and are an important part of the early childhood experience. National Playgroup Week is a time to recognize the value of playgroups in our community.

Playgroup SA will be holding the BIG PLAY DAY OUT in Mount Gambier as part of National Playgroup Week 2015, plus keep an eye out for local Playgroups running their own National Playgroup Week celebration.

Saturday 21 March

### The BIG Play Day Out

4pm to 8pm

John Power Reserve  
- behind Mulga Street Children's Centre

### Mount Gambier!

In partnership with The City of Mount Gambier, Playgroup SA will be holding the BIG PLAY DAY OUT to celebrate National Playgroup Week. We're planning loads of fun (and free) Playgroup Activities that will lead into a family picnic time and then follow on with 'Exploring the Night Sky' presentations from 7.45 onwards.

Come along and Laugh, Roll, Run, Jump, Thump, Dance, Plant, Creat, Imagine, Eat & Be.

Fri 10, Sat 11 & Sun 12 April

### visit Playgroup SA at the Pregnancy, Baby & Children's Expo

Come along and visit our stall and activity area at the PBC Expo Adelaide. While you're there, enter our competition to WIN a family pass to Disney on Ice.

Get your free ticket offer from [www.pbcexpo.com.au](http://www.pbcexpo.com.au) and save over \$20!

## The joy of parenting... discover more

ADMIT ONE • ADMIT ONE  
**FREE ticket offer:**  
**[pbcexpo.com.au](http://pbcexpo.com.au)**  
Save up to \$20 per ticket  
ADMIT ONE • ADMIT ONE

- Shop and save – discover new products to help you and your child
- Expert parenting tips and advice, plus hot topic talks
- Exclusive expo specials and competitions

#### Save the Date:

Adelaide: 10–12 April 2015

Sydney: 22–24 May 2015

Brisbane: 19–21 June 2015

Perth: 31 July–2nd August 2015

Melbourne: 16–18 October 2015



Loads of free entertainment including  
**Ben & Holly** live on stage.

© Astley Baker Davies Ltd/Entertainment One UK Ltd 2008.



### To be Announced Playgroup @ the Zoo

We're currently working in partnership with Adelaide Zoo's to come up with a 2015 date for Playgroup @ the Zoo. We wish to bring you this Annual Event in the latter part of the year and we'll advertise the scheduled date soon.



# SUMMER

craft

## Frozen Paint Pop Sticks

This is a great fun way to paint on a hot day.

Pour paint into an ice cube tray. For a rainbow effect, layer the paint in the tray.

Place in the freezer for 30 minutes before inserting one Pop Stick per cube (the reason you wait is so that they stay upright as the cubes are firmer). When you're ready to paint, pop out the cubes gently and place them onto a plate for use.

The Pop Stick makes a good handle to paint with. Be quick, as on a hot day these ice paints can melt fast.



## Octopus

Use a recycled and cut down roll from glad-wrap, al-foil or paper towel.

Cut each tentacle so that there are eight and fold them outwards. Paint the outside and, once dried, decorate your octopus. We've used sticker eyes and pom poms.

See what you have in your craft cupboard and see how creative you can get.



## Snorkel Picture

This would make a great display at Playgroup - with all of the children's creations hung up together.

Either take the photo yourself, or ask your families to bring in photos. Have the children paint an ocean background. While the paint dries, start working on the mask (we've included a mask template for you to the left).

For younger children you can pre-cut the mask and for the older ones this is a great cutting exercise (they may like to attempt cutting around their photo too).

Once the paint has dried, colour in and paste the fish or stick on some ocean

themed stickers. Glue down the photo, then the mask. Now, attach a straw for the snorkel. And for the final touches, you can use stickers for the bubbles, paint some on or use the end of a glue stick to stamp in the bubbles. Wa-la - isn't it cute?

*Have you tried any of these activities at your Playgroup or home?  
We'd love to see! Send us pictures to [publications@playgroupsa.com.au](mailto:publications@playgroupsa.com.au)  
and you never know, we might even send you a prize!*

## Moulding Sand

2 cups of fine sand  
1 cup of corn flour  
½ cup of water

Pour all the ingredients together and mix using your hands.

Place in a tray so that your Playgroups can feel its cool texture and see what creative sand sculptures can be made.

The texture should be crumbly, moldable and wet.

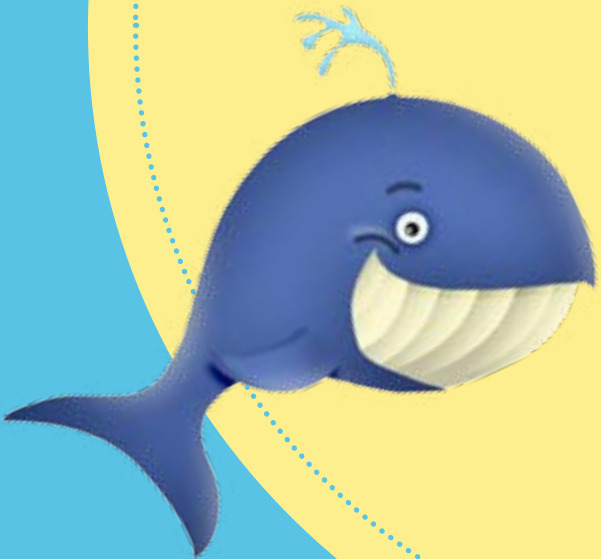




# SUMMER SONG

## A SONG OF SUNSHINE

*Sung to the tune of 'Sing a Song of Sixpence'*



Sing a song of Sunshine,  
Summer's here at last!

Flowers in the garden,  
Tell us Spring is past,

Picnics in the Country,  
Swimming in the sea,

Holidays are happy days  
So sing this song with Me!

# Water Play

In the lead up to summer, it's an ideal time to celebrate water and cool down at Playgroup.

Water play is an important activity for children at Playgroup, as it can foster physical, social-emotional, and cognitive development. It's also great fun and keeps young ones from overheating during those long summer days.

There are so many water activities that you can try at playgroup (or home), but this our pick of the best;

- **Bathing the dolls**  
Wash the plastic dolls at Playgroup in an old baby bath. Have props such as towels, empty hand-soap containers, face washers and even a rubber ducky.
- **Here is the sea**  
Place assorted sea creature figurines, shells and even some sand into a water trough. Children can explore ocean themes.

- **Coloured water experimentation**  
Add a few drops of food colouring to the water tray. Add a few funnels, measuring cups, egg whisks and any other interesting containers/jugs. Add new colours if interest wanes.
- **Antarctica discovery**  
Freeze blocks of ice in old ice cream containers and add to a shallow water-lined tray. Add penguin, seal and whale figurines and discover what life might be like in Antarctica. Or use dinosaur figurines and play Ice Age.
- **Paint the fence**  
Place a small amount of water into child sized buckets and add paint brushes. Explain to the children that the fence/cubby/side of the building needs re-painting with the magic paint pots. They'll be busy for hours!

Children have a natural attraction to water and as such they must be vigilantly supervised at all times. Playgroup SA recommends that parents/ carers remain close to children when they are playing around water. Use 'touch supervision' – this means having an adult within arm's length of each child.



# Bubbles...

## Bubble Mixture Recipe

### Ingredients

- 1/4 cup glycerine
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 tablespoon liquid detergent (double, triple, or quadruple amounts if larger amounts of mixture required)

### Method

1. Place water into container
2. Add detergent and glycerine
3. Stir mixture (get the children to do this with whisks and beaters)
4. Blow bubbles

Bubbles are a great source of fascination for children. Setting up for bubble play at Playgroup is easy - children can help with the preparations by mixing the bubble mixture. It is also an activity that suits children of all ages - babies will enjoy watching bubbles float and burst, while older children will find blowing bubbles lots of fun. It's great for developing lungs, mouth muscles and speech sounds too!

Bubble wands can be made from wire loops or pipe cleaners. These can be poked into plastic straws to cover any sharp ends. Younger children will find it easier to make bubbles by dipping fly swats into the solution and then waving them around.

If children would like to try catching and holding a bubble, get them to put their hand into the bubble mixture first - if they are very gentle, the bubble won't burst!

## Extension ideas...

- Pour bubble solution into a spray bottle to spray some bubbles
- Mix some Edicol dye into bubble solution, place some in a small container, then blow through a straw to make masses of tiny bubbles (taking care not to swallow any of the liquid). A piece of paper can then gently be placed on top of the bubbles to make a bubbly print!
- Make giant bubbles by immersing a large wire hoop into a shallow container of bubble mixture (a clean upturned plastic garbage bin lid works well), then wave the hoop gently through the air to dislodge the bubble.

*Special care should be taken to ensure that bubble mix does not come into contact with eyes and is not swallowed.*

*We find that using Morning Fresh brand of detergent gets the best result.*

**Every creative journey begins with the first steps.**

crayola.com.au



# 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 Monday 16 March, 2015  
for your chance to WIN!

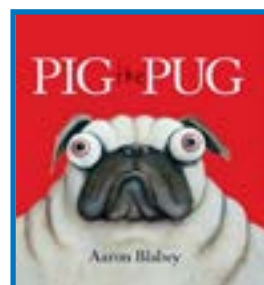
These books have been donated,  
courtesy of SCHOLASTIC



Budinge and the Min Min  
Lights by Uncle Joe Kirk

Uncle Jo retells this Indigenous  
dreaming story with a surprising  
ending.

Features the most beautiful of  
illustrations!



Pig the Pug  
by Aaron Blabey

A funny story for both young and  
old, perfect for teaching children  
about sharing!

A great story for reading out loud  
- as it rhymes, by award-winning  
author Aaron Blabey.



Somewhere in Australia by  
Marcello Pennacchio

This is a gorgeous Australian  
book based on the classic rhyme  
'Over in the Meadow'.

Featuring stunning artwork,  
counting from one to ten and  
hidden lessons on the animalia  
and native wildlife of Oz.



Rita's Rhino  
by Tony Ross

A humorous take on the  
responsibility of pet ownership  
when Rita adopts a pet rhino from  
the zoo, but tries to keep it from  
her mum.

Congrats to the Renko Family from Tumbleweed Playgroup, Mount Gambier  
for winning the Edition #6, 2014 Book Pack!



# Tumby Bay

In becoming a Playgroup SA Full Year Family Member before  
16 March 2015, you can go into the draw to win a family holiday to  
Tumby Bay, Eyre Peninsula, simply by attaching your completed  
Entry Form (below) to your Membership Form...



[www.modrasapartments.com.au](http://www.modrasapartments.com.au)

## Prize includes:

3 nights accommodation in a 2 bedroom  
Modra's Apartment, suitable for up to 6 people,  
**valued at \$390.** Plus vouchers from local businesses  
and attractions with savings of up to \$285!

To be eligible to go into the draw, all Membership Forms must be received by  
Playgroup SA by 4pm on Monday 16 March 2015.  
The winner will be drawn during National Playgroup Week (23-29 March, 2015).



PLAYGROUP SA  
Playing, learning, supporting families



# Competition Entry

Full Name: .....Playgroup Name: .....

Phone: .....Email: .....

# PLAYGROUP Workshops 2015

## Cost per Playgroup Workshop (inc GST)

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Playgroup SA Members                          | \$15            |
| Playgroup SA Coordinators                     | \$15            |
| Playgroup Group Booking (minimum of 4 people) | \$10 per person |
| Non-Members of Playgroup SA                   | \$40            |



## Enrolments / Enquiries

Playgroup SA 1800 171 882 or through submitting a 'Workshop Enrolment Form'.

*Bookings are essential to secure your place and payment is due strictly FIVE business days prior to the Playgroup Workshop.*

*No REFUNDS or CREDITS will be given without a minimum of five business days notice.*

## Crèche

*A crèche service is available on-site when stated. This service is included in the Workshop Cost.*

## Location

Playgroup SA Head Office  
91 Prospect Road, Prospect SA



CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENTS Training available 12 March / 18 June / 10 September  
*FREE for Playgroup Coordinators - Enquire with Playgroup SA for further details.*

## Coordinators Workshop

Are you thinking about starting a Playgroup?  
Are you a new Playgroup Coordinator?  
Are you interested in assisting with the running of your Playgroup?

The Coordinators Workshop will provide you with all the information that you need to assist in these roles!

This workshop includes invaluable tips on how to effectively run a Playgroup, as well as creative play ideas and useful information on the value and benefits of play. This is also a great opportunity to connect and brainstorm with other Playgroup Coordinators and Playgroup SA staff in developing your own Playgroup support network.

Thursday 19 February  
10am - 12:30pm  
Crèche available

Saturday 2 May  
10am - 12:30pm  
NO Crèche available

Thursday 20 August  
10am - 12:30pm  
Crèche available

Thursday 12 November  
6pm - 8pm  
NO Crèche available

This workshop is centred around age appropriate play ideas and activities for pre-school age children.

A change in the process of school intake has prompted a demand for stimulating ideas and activities for 4-5 year old Playgroupers, prior to school entry.

Pre-schoolers need and respond well to structure. They are more capable of managing intense emotions and they require routine to avoid feeling overwhelmed. Pre-school age children start to display more curious and questioning behaviours... they are more prone to pushing the boundaries and they often love to experiment with exploration and risk taking.

## pre-Schoolers at Play

Thursday 5 March  
10am - 12pm  
Crèche available

Wednesday 4 November  
6pm - 8pm  
NO Crèche available



## Make & Play

Tuesday 12 May  
6pm - 8pm  
NO Crèche available

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!

## Messy Play

Explore the value and benefits of messy play and gain age appropriate play ideas - but most of all, be engaged and have fun!

Messy Play makes an enormous contribution to your child's early language and literacy development. It is a vital component to children's cognitive processes and developing creativity, and benefits all children's learning!

Thursday 19 March  
10am - 12pm  
Crèche available

## Music & Movement

Learn about the importance of music in early childhood. Discover how to run your own interactive Music & Movement session at Playgroup and gain fabulous ideas to get your playgroup families moving and singing. Includes actions and dances, props, musical instruments, parachute songs, songs that encourage movement and music for babies

Thursday 14 May  
10am - 12pm  
NO Crèche available

## Christmas Craft

Come along and celebrate the festive season with this fabulous hands-on art and craft workshop that will provide you with inspiring ideas to share with your children! A fun and interactive Christmas themed session that will explore a variety of art materials, techniques and ideas to use with young children in the lead up to Christmas.

Thursday 22 October  
10am - 12pm  
Crèche available





## Playgroup Workshop Enrolment

All courses will be held at Playgroup SA Head Office  
91 Prospect Road, Prospect SA

### Personal details

Surname .....  
First name .....  
Email .....  
Playgroup SA Member # .....(if applicable)  
Preferred telephone.....

### Course details

*Crèche is available for specified courses only and is included in the course cost.*

Course 1 Name .....  
Course Date .....  
# of children in crèche? ..... Fee \$ .....  
Course 2 Name .....  
Course Date .....  
# of children in crèche? ..... Fee \$ .....  
Course 3 Name .....  
Course Date .....  
# of children in crèche? ..... Fee \$ .....  
Total Fee \$ .....

### Payment details

- ☐ Member Price \$15.00 per workshop  
☐ Non-Member Price \$40.00 per workshop  
☐ Group Booking 4+ people @ \$10 each - to be submitted together

I have made an EFT for the sum of \$ ..... to:  
Playgroup SA · BSB 105 022 · Account No 1092 59640

Or, please charge this fee to my credit card:

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

..... - ..... - .....

Name on card .....

Expiry date ..... / .....

Cardholders signature .....

Bookings are essential to secure your place and payment is due strictly FIVE business days prior to the Playgroup Workshop.

No REFUNDS or CREDITS will be given without a minimum of 5 business days notice.

Playgroup SA Inc. 91 Prospect Road, Prospect SA 5082  
info@playgroupsa.com.au / 1800 171 882



**To attend a Playgroup SA Workshop featured on the previous pages, complete the above form and submit to Playgroup SA along with payment.**

**Is it too hard for you to attend a Workshop at Prospect...?**

**Call Playgroup SA on free call 1800 171 882 and discuss the possibility of us running a course at YOUR Playgroup with one of our friendly Playgroup Support & Development Officers..**



## Find Your Local Playgroup

Please call Playgroup SA on free call 1800 171 882 or email [info@playgroupsa.com.au](mailto:info@playgroupsa.com.au) and we'll send you a detailed list of Playgroups in your local area (including days, cost, times, coordinators contact details, etc). We have over 300 Playgroups in South Australia and if you're a Playgroup SA Member for 2015, you're entitled to regularly attend as many of Playgroups as you'd like/is possible!

## Playgroup SA Membership:

Membership is compulsory for all families attending a Playgroup SA Affiliated Playgroup and is available for a calendar year, half year or on a term basis. If you are attending Playgroup and you are struggling to pay your membership fees, please give us a call. We are here to help.

Your Playgroup SA family membership entitles you to numerous benefits - as well as being allowed to attend as many Affiliated Playgroups as you wish and comprehensive public liability & personal accident insurance whilst attending Playgroup.

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.

## Playgroup SA Affiliation:

Playgroup Affiliation is by calendar year. By Affiliating your Playgroup, you are registering your Playgroup on the Playgroup SA database (which ensures your Playgroup receives family referrals, allows support for the Playgroup Coordinator and enables attendees of your Playgroup to become members of Playgroup SA) in addition to numerous other Playgroup SA Benefits, including the provision of Insurance for not only Playgroup contents and public liability, but for individual families who attend your playgroup.

The Affiliation Form was sent to previously Affiliated Playgroups in November 2014 and is to be completed by the Coordinator of the Playgroup. Affiliating your Playgroup is one of the most important things to do. If you are a Playgroup Coordinator and your groups Affiliation Form has not been submitted to Playgroup SA for the year of 2015, please contact Playgroup SA as soon as possible.

## Police Clearances (NEW Info)

There have been recent changes that have occurred to the National History Screening process, applicable to some Playgroup Coordinators. If you are a Playgroup Coordinator and you have not yet received a letter outlining these changes, please contact Playgroup SA for more information.