



# Huberta's Big Surprise

## PLAYGROUP SESSION PLANNER





# Play Spaces

## Theme: Huberta's Big Surprise

Huberta the Hippo loved to surprise everyone. Count with her as she builds up to her biggest surprise of all! Written by Australian Husband and Wife authors Klay and Mark Lamprell. The beautiful illustrations by Marjorie Crosby-Fairall and wondering what Huberta is up to next, is a fun, happy story the children will love.

**FACT:**  
Marjorie Crosby-Fairall has also illustrated the Book **Dinosaur Dads.**



## Creative Space

### Make your own Huberta

**CHILDREN WILL NEED:** Grey, pink and white card or paper, scissors, glue, eye stickers or black texta/crayon.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Using the templates attached here below, print on the coloured card/paper. Cut out the shapes, ready for Playgroup or let the children cut their own, depending on age. Cut two front teeth as big or little as you like. Layer the shapes and glue, to make Huberta's face. Stick on the eye stickers or draw black circles on for eyes.

**EXTENSION IDEAS:** If you have some wool, or ribbon you could give Huberta some Hair. Or cut out a bow for her to wear using coloured/patterned material or paper. You could also make a Hat for her to wear.

*What other names could you give Huberta? Share your craft with Playgroup SA on social media #PlaygroupSA*



# Play Spaces

Easy 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 *Hippo Water Play*

**You will need:** A tray, hippo's or other animals that play/live in the water. Some scoops, pipettes and water.

**Instructions:** Put some water into the tray with the animals and scoops etc. Let the children play in the water with the animals. Use the scoops and pipettes to wash the animals.



## Outdoor Activity *Huberta Hopscotch*



Huberta Hopscotch – using chalk draw a Hopscotch course for as many numbers as you would like. Use a small bean bag or similar to toss. You could draw Huberta and a Hot Air Balloon next to the Hopscotch course.

# 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

## Huberta's Big Surprise

Routines provide predictability for children

### Activities to include in your Playgroup Routine

#### Welcome Song



Ninna Marni [Niina Marni]  
Niina marni? Niina marni? >> Marni'ai.  
Marni'ai  
Wanti niina? Wanti niina? >> Wardli-ana,  
Wardli-ana.  
© Cherie Watkins

#### Song Time



Please see the last page for this session planner's song.  
Join in with your group.



#### Shared Experience



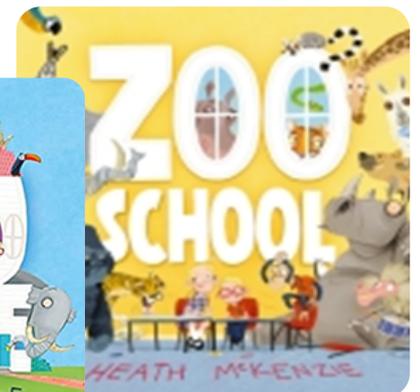
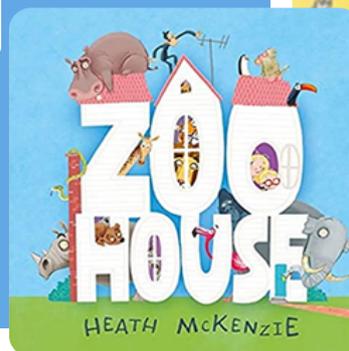
Read Huberta's Big Surprise to the group. Practise counting with the children. Check out our counting song suggestions!

#### Story Time



Have a look at the local library or bookstore for these books that include the Zoo!

- Zoo House by Heath McKenzie
- Zoo School by Heath McKenzie



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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!

# *One Two Buckle My Shoe*

One, two  
Buckle my shoe  
Three, four  
Shut the door  
Five, six  
Pick up sticks  
Seven, eight  
Don't be late  
Nine, ten  
Do it over again!

# *One, Two, Three, Four, Five*

One, two, three, four, five,  
Once I caught a fish alive,  
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,  
Then I let it go again.  
Why did you let it go?  
Because it bit my finger so.  
Which finger did it bite?  
This little finger on my right

# 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