



# Playgroup SA

## *Playgroup Weekly Session Planner*

*African Animals - Lion*

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

# CRAFT ACTIVITY

Lions are the only cats to live in groups called prides, and they live in the southern and eastern parts of Africa. Lions live for 10-14 years in the wild. They sleep or doze for up to 20 hours a day.

**Craft activity:** Lion Face

**Children will need:** Small paper plates, orange and yellow strips of paper/cellophane/tissue paper, black texta/crayon, eye stickers, orange & Yellow paint, Pop sticks, scissors, sponges, glue, sticky tape.

**Instructions:** Cut the coloured paper in to strips, set the paint and sponges out. Using the sponge, paint the paper plate. Leave to dry. Once plate is dry glue on the strips for the Lions mane. Draw on whiskers, mouth and a nose. Stick on eyes, but if you don't have any eye stickers, draw them on or use black pom poms. Using the sticky tape, tape the pop stick to the back of the lion.

**Extension ideas:** Take a visit to the zoo to see the lions. Make a lioness, rather than a lion. What would you need to do differently? Make a zoo from the Playgroup animals and building blocks.

**Fact:** Lions can eat up to 40 pounds (just over 18kg's) in one meal. A lioness is a girl (female) lion.



**Learning Outcome 2:** Children have a strong sense of wellbeing



# OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

Lion Paw Painting. Hang some butchers paper outside, draw an oval shape for the Lions head, then have the children paint their hands in red, orange or yellow paint and let them print their handprints around the lion's head to make his mane. Add his features with paint or texta.

# SENSORY ACTIVITY

## Orange and Red Playdough

**You will need:** Two batches of Playdough – playdough tools  
Pre make two batches of Playdough – one orange, one brown (see attached Playdough recipe) the children can make their own Lions. Making shapes to put together to make up their lion and its beautiful mane. Include sticks

# GROUP TIME IDEAS

Play the game “Sleeping Lions” – have two Hunters standing, and the rest of the children lie on the floor as still as possible pretending to be Sleeping Lions. Once they are settled, they can't move. The Hunters then walk around the room trying to make the “lions” move by making them laugh, tell jokes, be silly (Adults could be the Hunters). Once a Lion is caught awake, they become a Hunter. Until all the Sleeping Lions have been caught.

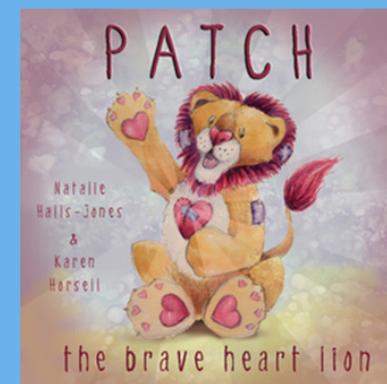
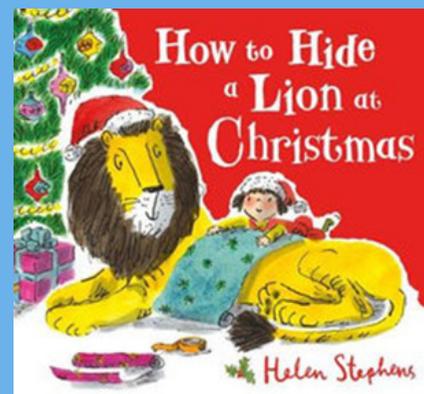
Sing “The lion sleeps tonight”



# BOOK SUGGESTIONS

How to Hide a Lion at Christmas by Helen Stephens

Patch the Heart Lion – By Natalie Halls-Jones & Karen Horsell



# PLAYDOUGH RECIPE

## You will need:

1 cup of plain flour

½ Cup of salt

2 Tbls Cream of tartar

1 Tbls cooking oil, approx.

1 Cup of boiling water

½ - 1 tsp food colouring.

Mix together the dry ingredients in a bowl, in a jug mix the food colouring and oil. Add the liquids to the dry ingredients, mix well. Turn on to work surface and knead until smooth and stretchy. Cover and store in a container in the fridge until needed. (to achieve the orange add red and yellow colouring)

## *Benefits of playing with Play dough:*

*Enhances fine motor skill*

*Soothing and Calming*

*Improves pre-writing skills*

*Imaginative play and creativity*

*Develops hand-eye coordination*

*Increases curiosity and knowledge*

