Reading & Signing with your Child

Reading together is a great experience for both parent/carer and child. You often get busy in your day to day duties, however it is important to make reading part of your daily routine, find a special area where you are both comfortable and that can be the reading area each day. It is never too young to read stories, or read and re-read stories, we know children love repetition. Use ‘wh’ questions (what, why, when, where).

BOOK OF THE WEEK

“The Very Hungry Caterpillar” is a wonderful story that reinforces the life cycle of caterpillars, it teaches numbers, colours, and days of the week.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY

SONG OF THE WEEK

“Hungry Caterpillars” song is appropriate for young children, with basic physical movements, for older kindergarten age children.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gs8_VUSnMQ

You could also do “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” song.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUBBh4QzTU
Messy Play in May - Hand and Feet Painting
Hand and feet painting can be messy and that is part of the fun. Hand and feet painting stimulates creativity and imagination, it is great for sensory integration and it is therapeutic – express feelings without words. Young children can explore the texture of paint on their skin and explores physical movements.

Painting with Babies
You can sing “This little piggy” song while you paint their feet or hand and express feeling words of the texture; soft, smooth, etc.
To paint on you can use, paper, back of wrapping baby, butcher’s paper or cardboard.

Physical Movement Painting
Children can be creative and do different physical movements, they can walk, hop, be a crab on their feet and hand, walk side to side, etc. You can use two primary colours per painting, so your child can mix them together and make a third colour.

Making Paint
1 cup of warm water
1 ½ cups of white flour
Pinch of table salt (optional)
Add 2-3 drops of food colouring of your choice
Mix together

Making Art from Feet and Hand Paintings
You can turn your creative hand or feet prints into the Very hungry caterpillar or a butterfly.
Darebin Libraries Online Resources

STAY-AT-HOME STORYTIMES

The Darebin Libraries’ children’s team are busy recording storytimes from their homes for you to enjoy in the comfort and safety of your home. Visit the Darebin Libraries Facebook page on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10.15am for Stay-at-home Storytime. Cuddle up on the couch or go al fresco if the sun is out and enjoy! 
https://www.facebook.com/darebinlibraries/

ONLINE LEARNING RESOURCES

Darebin Libraries Online Digital learning is an available resource that caters for the whole family.

COVID 19 RESOURCES & INFORMATION

Community Navigation Service

Are you or someone you know looking for support or information to get through the COVID-19 pandemic? You can now find the help you need with Council’s new Community Navigation Service.

Our skilled team will work with you and help you find the information and support you’re after. This could be assistance in accessing food or meals, medication, ideas and activities for your children, how to access government and other grants/supports or to have a chat if you’re feeling worried or lonely.

Call us on 8470 8888 and ask to be connected to the Darebin Navigation Service, weekdays from 9am to 4pm. Alternatively email covidsupport@darebin.vic.gov.au

These measures build on a number of other initiatives and support lines Council has launched to support residents, businesses and ratepayers during this time. This includes a COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy (www.darebin.vic.gov.au/Your-Say/News/Coronavirus-COVID19#Financial-Hardship-Policy-and-Rates) for residents struggling to pay rates, and a $11.3 million support package (www.darebin.vic.gov.au/Your-Say/News/Coronavirus-COVID19#Community-support-and-relief) for Darebin’s community and businesses.
LIFTING COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

On Monday 11th May, the Premier Dan Andrews announced important information regarding lifting restrictions. As from 11.50pm on Tuesday;

- You can visit friends and family or they can visit you, but only 5 visitors at once, this includes adults and children.
- Groups of 10 (including children) will be allowed to go outside to engage in activities; such as kicking a footy at a park, jogging, hiking, etc.
- If you can stay at home and work from home you should stay at home.
- Children at some stage during this term should return to school gradually, details will be announced at a later time.

PARENTING PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

ParentZone Northern https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/events/
Raising Children - First 1000 Days: Conception to 2 years

Subscription to What’s on for Families eNewsletter

You and your families can also subscribe to our monthly What’s on for Families eNewsletter at http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/en/Your-Say/Newsletters/Subscribe

CONTACT US

All enquiries and feedback regarding Community Playgroups in Darebin should be directed to:
Early Years Leader: 0413 807 858 Email: early.years@darebin.vic.gov.au