Acknowledgment of Country - We acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people who are the traditional owners and custodians of this land. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.


**Reading & Singing with your Child**

**BOOK OF THE WEEK**

*The Crayons Book of Numbers* - by Drew Daywalt. Can you count all the crayons that are missing from the box? This book introduces the concepts of numbers and colours in a fun learning way for young children.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTWOiTkE2Kg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTWOiTkE2Kg)

**SONG OF THE WEEK**

*We are the Dinosaurs* - by Laurie Berkner. A troop of young dinosaurs going on an adventure. Children can become singing dinosaurs as they stomp around to this wonderful action-based story. A great song with repetition.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82ooOpJLzr8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82ooOpJLzr8)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vg-OUH6WNE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vg-OUH6WNE)
Letters and Numbers in August

Play allows children to be creative, use their imagination and explore their world. Play is a critical component of healthy brain development. From early infancy, children engage and interact in the world around them through play. As children, one of the first things we learn is the alphabet and sounds, through story books, songs, rhymes and interactions. Every letter represents a sound in the spoken language, which enables us to create words through combinations of sounds. Learning that there are predictable relationships between sounds and letters allows children to apply this knowledge to both familiar and unfamiliar words, and to begin to read with fluency. Please find play activities including numbers and letters below:

Alphabet Puzzle Games

Introducing puzzles to children in creative ways can help with a child’s engagement with letters.

Try hiding the alphabet pieces in a tub with seeds, shredded paper, leaves from outside, etc. Children can find the letter to help complete their puzzle. It is also a great opportunity to open up conversations about the sound the letter makes, and what word starts with the letter ‘A’, or finding an item that starts with ‘A’. You can make your own puzzle, by using a cake tin, patty pans and rocks from outside. You could also hide the rocks in a tray.

Yarn Wrapped Letters and Alphabet/Number Game

Yarn wrapped letters are fun and look great.

Using cardboard, cut out the letters or numbers you need, you will also need assorted wool and tape. Tape your chosen wool at a starting point and away you go, starting to wrap around the letter/number.

Placing the alphabet on pieces of paper on the ground in a circle, you can roll a dice, if you roll a number 3, then you will stand on the letter ‘C’, you then name an item that starts with the letter ‘C’. The first person to pass the letter ‘Z’ is the winner.
**Sign language**

Early exposure to signing helps infants to develop their language and reasoning skills.

With sign language a child has another form of communication of expressing their emotions and needs.

It is also a bonding experience. Signing and singing with children go together naturally, hand in hand, most children songs have action movements.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t0GJMvA05As

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**NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK**

National Science Week (15-23 August 2020) acknowledges the contributions of Australian scientists and aims to encourage children to engage with science both in everyday and educational settings. **The theme for National Science Week 2020 is Deep Blue : innovations for the future of our oceans.** For more information on online events and science activities suitable for children of all ages and abilities, see https://www.scienceweek.net.au/ and https://www.scienceweek.net.au and https://museumsvictoria.com.au/national-science-week/science-fun-at-home/

Or you could simply explore the virtual play box at Museum Victoria: Come along with Justin and Simone as they visit the Dinosaur Walk exhibition and sing about some incredible prehistoric creatures. Episode 1: A long, long time ago

Darebin Libraries Online Learning Resources

Darebin Libraries Online Digital learning is an available resource that caters for the whole family. The libraries for ‘Click and Collect’ services at Northcote and Reservoir has ceased during this second COVID-19 lockdown, further communications will be provided in the future in accordance with easing of restrictions.


COVID 19 Resources and Information

Due to the growing cases of coronavirus in Victoria the COVID-19 quarantine restrictions directions are subject to change.


When washing hands, it is important to scrub for 20 seconds, singing with the children ‘The germs Song’, help to ensure that they are scrubbing long enough.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LaePayB_pC4

The Australian Red Cross provides information, activities and resources for parents to use when talking to their child about COVID-19. Please refer to https://www.redcross.org.au
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

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