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.

Welcome to our Term 4 – 1st Edition of Darebin Community Playgroups Newsletter. In accordance to Playgroup Victoria Calendar, the theme for the month of October is ‘Dress up and Play’.

Reading & Singing with your Child

BOOK OF THE WEEK

The Very Hungry Caterpillar’s Creepy-Crawly Halloween - by Eric Carle, takes you on a spooky adventure with the Very Hungry Caterpillar and explores the woods by the light of the moon. Behind the flap on each page, discover which creatures are hiding in the woods.

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

SONGS OF THE WEEK

5 Little Pumpkins

The song ‘5 Little Pumpkins’ represents the Halloween theme, while expressing emphasis on number counting and emotions.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=trDl36m9pgA

Iincy Wincy Spider

Iincy Wincy Spider is a popular nursery rhyme and fingerplay actions that describes the adventures of the spider.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAJynClIsNUg
Dress-Up and Play in October

‘Dress up’ time occurs when children put on costumes, wigs, hats or accessories to pretend to be a different person or occupation (e.g. doctor, firefighter, superhero).

‘Pretend play’ occurs when a child “role-plays” or “acts” experiences that are of interest, or significant to them (e.g. a tea party or dinosaurs fighting). Children may engage in pretend play alone or with others.

Dress up and play provides children with the opportunity to use their imagination, build vocabulary skills, develop confidence and express emotions through experiences. A child can be anyone he/she would like to be and control their own creative play. Dress up play can involve roleplaying and storytelling which helps children develop ideas about how the world works. When he/she puts on a tool belt, they are exploring what it is like to be a construction worker, or if he/she puts pushes a baby in a pram, they are roleplaying a role of being a mummy or daddy.

October 31st is Halloween Day, a great opportunity for children to celebrate this occasion by using their imagination to create their own costumes and decorating their home or yard, with materials and items within their home. Please find play and creative activity ideas below:

Halloween Costumes

Dressing up allows children to be creative and use their imagination, any materials from within your home can contribute to creating simple Halloween costumes.

Making a ghost costume
1. Using paper, cut out two eyes and a mouth to glue onto the paper plate.
2. Cut out the centre of the eyes.
3. Cut long strips of ribbon and tape to the bottom of the paper plate.

Making a monster costume
1. Cut the back of a cardboard box.
2. Cover the box with paper or paint the box.
3. Use paper or other creative materials to create your scary monster.

Making a spider hat
1. Cut a piece of paper in half and measure it around your head.
2. With another piece of paper cut 8 long strips and fold them in half then half again.
3. Sticky tape the 8 long legs into the inside of the hat
4. Add you 8 spooky eyes.
Halloween Decorations

Making a Hanging ghost is fun, all you need is cardboard, paper, cotton wool/yarn and string/ribbon.

Cut out the shape of your ghost, paste or glue the cotton wool or yarn and add cut out eyes and a mouth out of paper. Give your hanging ghost a creative name.

Halloween Games

Using recyclable materials within your home, you can create different games to entertain young children.

Materials you may like to use to create games are; cups, bottles, cardboard, paper and balls.

‘Ring Toss’ and Bowling games are great for eye-hand coordination.

The ‘Bowling’ game is also great for rolling techniques.
CHILDREN’S WEEK 24 October—1 November

Children’s Week is a national celebration that recognises the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children.

This year it will run from Saturday 24th October to Sunday 1st November 2020, with thousands of Victorian children taking part in the festivities across the state which celebrate childhood.

The theme for this year’s Children Week is ‘Children have the right to choose their own friends and connect safely with others’. Visit the Victorian Department of Education to learn more about this year’s theme.

Due to COVID-19 quarantine restrictions, we know it has been a tough year for all children and so the Early Years Team have assembled a program of nine activities for children aged 0-12 years all abilities to simply have fun at home and in community. All activities involve minimal resources which are easy to access. Please click on the link www.darebin.vic.gov.au/childrensweek to access the booklet.

If you have any questions about Children’s Week and participating in any of the activities, please email early.years@darebin.vic.gov.au or call Julie Graney on 0413 807 858.
Darebin Libraries Online Learning Resources

Sign up for your free Library Membership

Darebin libraries membership gives you access to loads of great online resources for the whole family. Signing up is easy, just fill in the online membership form. Use your temporary ID to access the digital library straight away! You’ll find eBooks, eAudiobooks, digital newspapers and magazines, eComics, music and film streaming and more.

Story Box Library

Imagine the best stories being read aloud by your favourite storytellers! With an ever growing library, suitable for preschool and primary aged children, with Story Box Library, it really is storytime, anytime! Enter your Darebin Libraries Membership Number for access to stories featuring much loved characters like Noni the Pony, Pig the Pug, Macca the Alpaca and many more!

https://www.facebook.com/darebinlibraries/
https://www.facebook.com/darebinlibraries/playlist/236882567453300/

COVID 19 Resources and Information

Due to the current cases of coronavirus in Victoria the COVID-19 quarantine restrictions directions are subject to change. New announcements were made regarding to the road map out of restrictions. Please regularly check the latest updates on COVID-19 quarantine restrictions at: https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

‘Many Ways to Share a Hug’ by The Australian Childhood Foundation is a lovely social story for young children, explaining changes occurring through the eyes of a hug and the value of hugs throughout this time. https://www.childhood.org.au/app/uploads/2020/04/hug_HR.pdf

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