Playtime at Port October Newsletter

E: admin@playtimeport.com.au **P:** (02) 6583 1147 **W:** www.playtimechildcare.com.au

October in Action

A quick snapshot of the month that was

PRESCHOOL ROOM:





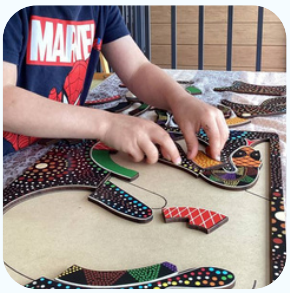












The Preschool Room

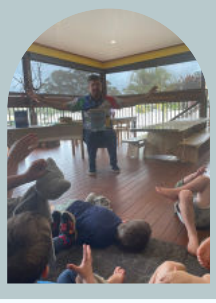
A LITTLE BIT OF RAIN DIDN'T SPOIL OUR FUN TODAY! WE HAVE BEEN CREATIVE WITH PAINTING AND BUILDING, READ LOTS AND LOTS OF STORIES, COMPLETED PUZZLES AND STARTED TO LEARN ABOUT OUR BIRIPAI TOTEM ANIMAL, THE DOLPHIN. WHEN THE RAIN DID STEADY, WE EXPLORED DIFFERENT PLANTS THAT FLOAT/SINK IN THE PUDDLES, AND OF COURSE HAD TO JUMP IN SOME TOO! WHAT A FUN MONDAY WE HAVE HAD TODAY 😊

JAMIE TEACHES GATHANG

Today we had a very special visitor for language week when Jamie Donnavan came in to teach us some of the Gathang language used by the Biripi people. We learnt how to say hello = Wiyabu and see you later = Gapu as well as yes = Ngii and no = Guuran. Jamie also explained the Gathang vowels are different to English and that the vowel U is pronounced "ooh". Jamie then shared the totem animals of the Biripi people and the Gathang names for them. We now have a wall display in our room with each totem animals of and a push button of the preschool children saying the Gathang names for them. We can't wait for you to come in and check out our display and press the buttons along with the children.









Endless Opportunities for Every Child

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October in Action

A quick snapshot of the month that was

JUNIOR ROOM:

















The Junior Room

DURING GROUP TIME, WE ENGAGED IN A DISCUSSION ABOUT FEATHERS AND THE CHILDREN HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO FEEL AND EXPLORE FEATHERS FROM REAL BIRDS, NOTICING THEIR DIFFERENT TEXTURES AND FEATURES.

WE EXTENDED THIS LEARNING BY VISITING OUR CHICKENS, WHERE THE CHILDREN ENJOYED FEEDING THEM BEFORE HEADING OUT INTO THE BACKYARD FOR A FEATHER HUNT. THERE WAS LOTS OF EXCITEMENT AS THE CHILDREN SEARCHED CAREFULLY AND DISCOVERED FEATHERS IN THEIR OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT.

EXPLORING BIRIPI LAND

After feeding the Chickens, some of the Juniors joined Deb digging in the garden for wiggly worms, with lots of excitement the children spotted, dug, held and observed many different sized wiggly worms.





Before lunchtime we joined for a small group time where again sang our acknowledgment of country and shared all of the things we saw on the land whilst we were playing outdoors.

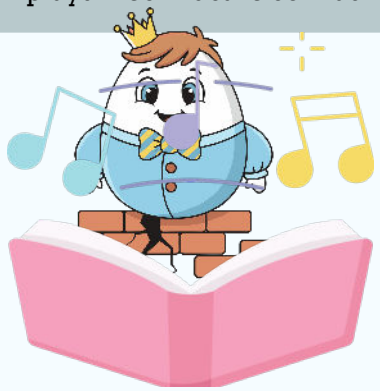




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Upcoming Events & Programs Calendar

Here is a detailed look at our upcoming schedule. We invite you to join us for learning, fellowship, and service.

11TH NOV	Remeberance day
13TH NOV	World Kindness Day
9-13TH NOV	Nursery Rhyme Week
22-29TH NOV	Social Inclusion Week
3RD DEC	Graduation
10TH DEC	Christmas Party Playtime @ Port

Stay tuned for more upcoming experiences, incursions and special events across the service as we continue exploring new learning opportunities, community connections and seasonal projects together











🎃 SPOOKY SEASON HAS ARRIVED! 👻

THIS MORNING WAS FILLED WITH SPOOKY EXCITEMENT AND SCARY WONDER AS WE KICKED OFF OUR HALLOWEEN DRESS-UP WEEK! OUR ROOMS WERE TRANSFORMED WITH LITTLE MONSTERS, SKELETONS, WITCHES AND ALL SORTS OF WONDERFULLY SPOOKY CHARACTERS. THE CHILDREN ARRIVED READY FOR A WEEK OF HALLOWEEN FUN, SHARING THEIR COSTUMES WITH FRIENDS, EMBRACING IMAGINATIVE PLAY AND ENJOYING THE MAGIC OF THE SEASON. THERE WERE PLENTY OF SMILES, GIGGLES AND A FEW SPOOKY SURPRISES ALONG THE WAY! WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT OTHER HALLOWEEN ADVENTURES AWAIT US THIS WEEK! 🕷️🦇🧡

Learning Through November

WHAT WE'LL BE EXPLORING,
DISCOVERING & LEARNING THIS MONTH

Juniors

THIS MONTH IN THE JUNIOR ROOM

THIS MONTH, OUR JUNIORS HAVE BEEN BUSY EXPLORING, LEARNING AND DISCOVERING THE WORLD AROUND THEM THROUGH SOME EXCITING EXPERIENCES!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN LEARNING OUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY AND BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO CARE FOR AND LOOK AFTER COUNTRY. THROUGH THESE EXPERIENCES, WE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING THE CHILDREN TO SHOW RESPECT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE LAND, NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT AROUND US.

GARDENING AND NATURE EXPLORATION

BUILDING ON THEIR LEARNING ABOUT CARING FOR COUNTRY, THE JUNIORS HAVE BEEN BUSY LOOKING AFTER OUR GARDEN! THEY HAVE ENJOYED WATERING OUR PLANTS, HARVESTING SOME DELICIOUS TOMATOES AND STRAWBERRIES, AND WATCHING OUR PASSIONFRUIT VINES FLOWER, WITH HOPES OF SEEING SOME PASSIONFRUIT GROW SOON. THE CHILDREN HAVE ALSO BEEN EXPLORING THE MAGIC OF RAINBOWS, NOTICING HOW THEY CAN APPEAR WHEN WATER SPRAYS ONTO THE PLANTS AND EVEN IN THE SKY AFTER A STORM!

CHICKEN LIFE CYCLE

THERE HAS BEEN LOTS OF EXCITEMENT IN THE JUNIOR ROOM AS THE CHILDREN HAVE EAGERLY WAITED FOR OUR CHICKENS TO LAY THEIR FIRST EGGS – AND THE WAIT IS FINALLY OVER! WE HAVE WELCOMED OUR VERY FIRST LITTLE EGGS AND HAVE ALREADY PUT THEM TO GOOD USE BY MAKING SOME YUMMY PANCAKES AND COLOURFUL RAINBOW CAKES. THE CHILDREN HAVE LOVED BEING PART OF THIS EXPERIENCE AND LEARNING MORE ABOUT WHERE OUR FOOD COMES FROM.

Preschool

THIS MONTH IN THE PRESCHOOL ROOM

OUR PRESCHOOLERS HAVE HAD A WONDERFUL MONTH FILLED WITH CREATIVITY, EXPLORATION AND EXCITING LEARNING EXPERIENCES!

BIRIPI TOTEM ANIMALS

THE PRESCHOOLERS HAVE CONTINUED THEIR JOURNEY OF LEARNING ABOUT THE BIRIPI TOTEM ANIMALS, DISCOVERING LOTS OF INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE PORPOISE, CRAB AND SHARK. THEY HAVE ALSO BEEN LEARNING THE GATHANG NAMES FOR EACH ANIMAL, WITH THEIR CLEAR FAVOURITE BEING DJINNI DJINNI (CRAB)! THE CHILDREN ARE NOW PUTTING THEIR CREATIVITY TO WORK AS THEY BUILD AN UNDERWATER DIORAMA FOR THEIR SPECIAL SEA CREATURES TO CALL HOME.

CONSTRUCTION AND PROBLEM SOLVING

OUR LITTLE BUILDERS HAVE BEEN BUSY PUTTING THEIR CONSTRUCTION SKILLS TO THE TEST! USING MAGNETIC TILES AND BLOCKS, THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN DESIGNING AND BUILDING BRIDGES, EXPLORING DIFFERENT WAYS TO MAKE THEIR STRUCTURES STRONG AND STABLE. ALONG THE WAY, THEY HAVE BEEN DEVELOPING THEIR PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS, CREATIVITY AND PERSISTENCE AS THEY WORK OUT HOW TO KEEP THEIR DESIGNS STANDING.

SENSORY PLAY AND FINE MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

THROUGH A RANGE OF FUN, HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES, THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENING THEIR FINE MOTOR SKILLS AND DEVELOPING THE MUSCLES NEEDED FOR HOLDING AND USING PENCILS. THEY HAVE PARTICULARLY ENJOYED EXPLORING PLAY DOUGH, SQUEEZING SPRAY BOTTLES AND USING TWEEZERS TO PICK UP SMALL OBJECTS. THESE PLAYFUL EXPERIENCES ARE HELPING TO BUILD THEIR HAND STRENGTH, COORDINATION AND CONTROL WHILE HAVING LOTS OF FUN!

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PLASTIC FREE OCTOBER

We are excited to share that Playtime has been selected to participate in a Port Macquarie Hastings Council pilot program promoting sustainable birthday celebrations.

Families will be able to borrow a reusable Party Kit containing plates, cups, servingware, and decorations, helping to reduce waste and save money on birthday parties.

We are currently working with Council to determine when the kit will be available at our service and look forward to sharing more information soon.



Healthy Lunchboxes

A healthy lunchbox helps children stay energised, focused and ready for a day full of learning, play and adventure. Packing a balanced lunch doesn't have to be complicated—simple, nutritious foods are often the best choice!

Great lunchbox ideas include:

🍎 Fresh fruit – apples, pears, bananas, grapes, berries, watermelon or mandarins.

🥕 Crunchy vegetables – carrot sticks, cucumber, cherry tomatoes or capsicum.

🥪 Wholegrain options – sandwiches, wraps, pasta salad, rice or wholegrain crackers.

🧀 Protein-rich foods – cheese, lean meats, tuna, chicken, hummus or chickpeas.

🥣 Healthy snacks – yoghurt, popcorn (age appropriate), rice cakes or savoury muffins.

💧 Water – Please send a labelled drink bottle filled with water each day.

A Friendly Reminder

To help keep all children safe, Playtime At Port is an egg and nut free service. Please check food labels carefully before packing your child's lunchbox and avoid foods that contain eggs or nuts. We also encourage families to limit foods high in added sugar, such as lollies, chocolate and sugary drinks, and instead choose nourishing foods that support children's growth, wellbeing and learning.

Thank you for helping us create a safe and healthy environment for all children!

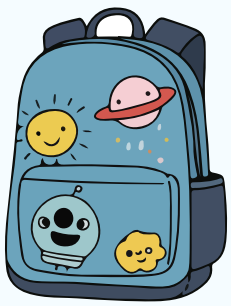
Links to some healthy and yummy lunch box recipe ideas

Banana Bread-
https://hw.qld.gov.au/healthy-recipes/banana-bread/
Zucchini & Cheese Muffins -
https://health-promotion.nnswlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/portfolio/cheesy-zucchini-mini-muffins/
Cheese & Vegemite Scrolls -
https://www.coles.com.au/recipes-inspiration/recipes/cheese-and-vegemite-scrolls

Things to remember to bring to school

make sure your child has a hat, lunch box, school bag with spare cloths and a drink bottle with water











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