



Play Based Learning

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- Play based learning programs are focused on teaching and learning.
- Public schools are fantastic places for children to learn through play. A play-based learning environment encourages talking, reading, thinking and writing. Through this, your child sees literacy and numeracy as part of their everyday experience.
- Children are naturally motivated to play. Your child is naturally curious. They want to know about the world around them. They do this by watching, listening, moving, talking, feeling, exploring and questioning. A play-based program builds on this motivation, using play as a context for learning. In this context, children can explore, experiment, discover and solve problems in imaginative and playful ways.
- Research shows that learning through play supports positive attitudes towards learning, providing a good foundation for ongoing success at school and skills for life-long learning.
- Enables the child to engage in the flexible and higher-level thinking processes deemed essential for the 21st century learner. These include inquiry processes of problem solving, analysing, evaluating, applying knowledge and creativity.

- Involves both child-initiated and teacher-supported learning. We encourage children's learning and inquiry through interactions that aim to stretch their thinking to higher levels.
- ▶ For example,
 - while students are playing with blocks, we as teachers pose questions that encourage problem solving, prediction and hypothesising. We can also bring the child's awareness towards mathematics, science and literacy concepts, allowing them to engage with such concepts through hands-on learning.
 - While students play with water, teachers might encourage them to playfully experiment with water tubs and toys in a way that allows them to develop their own hypotheses about how water moves in certain situations and why. Teachers work with students through play to test their ideas, questioning them and talking about what they observe and why.
- Play also supports the development of both large and small types of movement. Large movements include running, jumping, hopping, climbing and balancing, while little movements use smaller muscles of the hands and fingers such as drawing, picking up, stacking, manipulating and experimenting with objects. These fine motor skills are what we use every day for doing up zips and buttons, using cutlery and opening up containers.

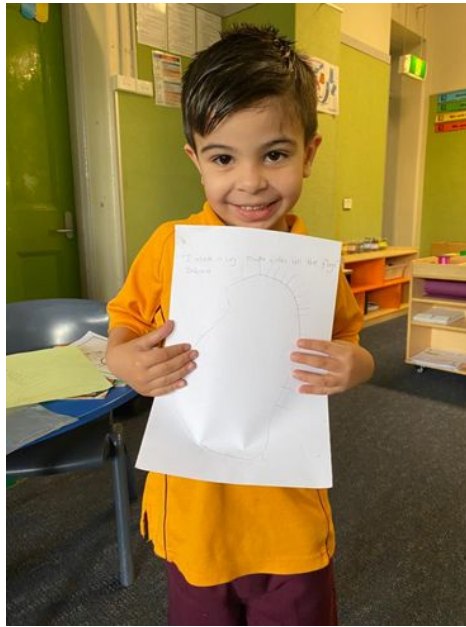
SKILLS DEVELOPED THROUGH PLAY



What does Play Based learning look like?



Prompts language and cooperation skills



Develops Literary and Numeracy skills/ understandings.





Creating an inviting space for students to come and engage in.



Challenges students thinking





Builds and adds on to students interests and ideas.



Play Helps a child...

Build confidence



Feel loved, happy and safe



Develop social skills, language and communication



Learn about caring for others and the environment



Develop physical skills

Connect and refine pathways in her brain.

Benefits of Play Based Learning.

- ▶ Language and literacy development
- ▶ Develop critical thinking skills
- ▶ Develop emotional maturity
- ▶ Social and emotional skills
- ▶ Creativity and imagination
- ▶ Numeracy Skills – number concepts, counting
- ▶ Confidence and a positive attitude towards learning
- ▶ Motor Skills – fine and gross motor

Play based learning and the skills they develop from it, sets students up with the skills and knowledge to become life long learners.