



## Week 3, Term 2, Newsletter: May 2020

Dear families,

I hope this finds you well. I want to thank you for your support so far this term in following all of the risk minimisation practices we are taking to keep everyone healthy. While South Australia is doing really well at the moment, as we head into the winter months, we want to continue to keep children, parents and staff healthy and safe, so please continue to:

- Wash your child's hands upon arrival in the mornings
- Wait outside (or inside reception area ensuring you keep 1.5m between you and others)
- Talk to your child about washing hands, coughing into their elbows, putting tissues into the bin and washing hands after blowing nose or touching their faces where possible
- Keep children at home if they are unwell with any cold or flu symptoms

Our learning plan is on track and it has been lovely seeing children reconnecting with each other and participating with enthusiasm every day at Kindy and in Occasional Care. On the next few pages you'll find some snippets from our learning plan – please have a look so you can support this at home too. We have created some videos (some for parents and some for children) that we hope help too. You can subscribe on our youtube channel here: [Our Youtube channel](#)

## Parent-Teacher Chats

We are following the Department for Educations recommendations of holding our parent-teacher chats over the phone at this stage. This is a chance to chat to your child's Guardian teacher about your child's development and any concerns or questions you have, then together you will make plans for their learning going forward. We hope to offer face-to-face chats later this term when we can, so you have the choice of booking a phone meeting now or waiting. Please respond to the email about this when it arrives. Thank you,

Take care,  
Jessica Dubois  
*Director*



### FREE IMMUNISATION CLINIC here on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

You must book in. Call us on (08) 8268 1200 to book in. Speak to Daniella or Jessica. Immunisations for adults and children.

Free flu shots may be available for children.

Flu shots for over 5's cost \$20 (including adults). EFTPOS only.

*Teaching and Learning Intention:*

**Learning Goal: I use language to connect with my world.**

**We are learning about how books work.**

Children constantly demonstrate their love of books and stories with us, independently and with others. We are thinking about how to cultivate this interest and extend children's learning through books. Books are found in many spaces in our environment... we use them for pleasure and to find out information about something we are interested in. Children will learn about how books work, learn new vocab and 'tune in to' rhyme through large and small group experiences, and through conversations with educators and peers.

In our reading area, we will include collections of books by the same author. Children will be encouraged to notice this ... and spark conversations about the roles of authors.

Story tables have been set up, giving children access to story props which they can use to re-tell a familiar story. Children have been encouraged to share their version of a familiar story, and to play with story components... the setting, characters, problems and resolutions.



You can watch videos of Mel and Tamara reading these stories on our youtube channel: [Go to our youtube videos here!](#)

## SNAPSHOT OF LEARNING continued ...

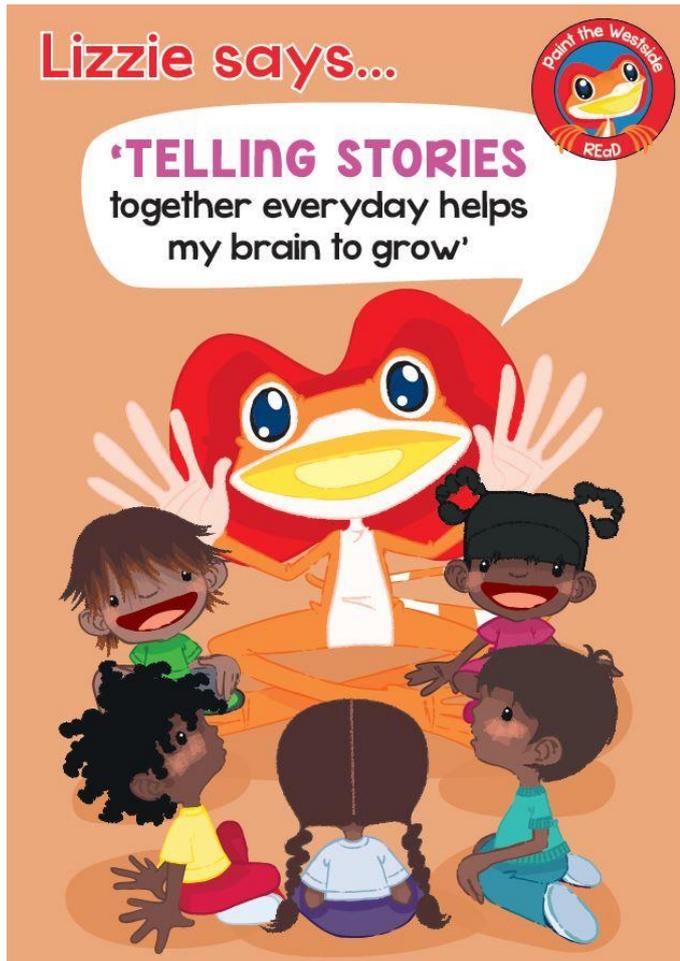
Spaces and resources are available for dramatizing familiar stories have been set up for children too... re-telling stories with friends... becoming a character. For example, puppet play or dress ups support children to act out a story script as they create characters, a plot, setting, problem/complication and resolution. This provides a great opportunity for children to collaborate together on negotiating a story line and ideas, as they listen to each other to follow and extend a story script.

### We are learning about books:

- How do we use them and what do we use them for?
- What are the parts of a book? E.g. front cover, title, author
- What makes a story? What is the structure of a story? The setting, characters, orientation (the 'beginning') / complication (the 'problem') / resolution (when the characters solve the problem).
- Are all books... story books, or do different books have different purposes? Introducing non-fiction books to children.
- Where do we start reading? What direction do we read English in?
- How do the illustrations support the text – what is the intention of the author and the illustrators? How do their choices make us as a reader feel or respond?



Our literacy learning goal supports Lizzie the Literacy Lizard's May monthly message:  
**"Telling stories together everyday helps my brain to grow"**



### **IDEAS for supporting storytelling at home:**

Children love listening to and creating their own stories. Storytelling can be about your day, a memory, something you notice when you're out and about or a story from a book.

Some benefits of storytelling can include;

- Sharing of your culture and family history or experiences
- Strengthening your home language – share stories in the language you feel most comfortable
- Supporting language development, new vocabulary and understandings – relate your stories back to experiences your child has already had, give your child a chance to take turns
- Inspire imagination and creativity – use words like 'I wonder....' 'Imagine if ....' 'What if...'
- Helps to explore difficult/scary situations
- Explore feelings for young children – if you're reading a story, stop and notice the facial expressions on the characters in the pictures, talk about 'how might they be feeling?' 'Why?', relate it back to experiences when your child has felt that way, why, what can they do to help them overcome these feelings – these are really important discussions to have with children around 3- 5 years of age

## COMMUNITY NEWS and REMINDERS

### WINTER CLOTHES

As we move towards colder, wetter days in winter – can we please ask you to:

- Send your child to Kindy in appropriate clothing for the weather. We are happy for you to say “Jessica/Tamara/Mel/the Kindy says ... etc” and use us as a motivation to suggest appropriate warm clothes if needed. Feel free to chat to us about this and we can support in lots of ways.
- Please pack 1 or many (depending on your child) sets of spare clothes, including jumpers, tracksuits, socks.
- Please wear gumboots if you can when it is wet. Gumboots, rain jackets and waterproof pants mean that your child can continue to learn outside when it has rained or the ground is wet. Waterproof shoes help to keep your child’s feet dry. If you would like suggestions on where to buy these, chat to a teacher.
- If anyone can donate old gumboots from home, that would be great!



#### Reminders and ideas for winter weather:

- Coats / jackets
- Rain coats
- Water proof clothing
- Gumboots
- Beanies / hats
- Lots of layers!
- Please pack spare clothes



**Do you or your family have old gumboots that you could donate to Kindy?**

### WINTER CLOTHES for adults

- We usually have a visit from The Thread Together Van during school term however these visits have been suspended because of coronavirus. This van supplies community members with sets of brand new, adult clothing. We can still receive these clothes, even though the van cannot visit to let you browse what they have available. If you or an adult in your family would appreciate some new, warm clothes for winter, please chat to any of the staff at our centre about what you need, then we can organise a delivery. They may have blankets available too. They are happy to help!



## Phone Support

- While things are starting to feel somewhat closer to 'normal', coronavirus has and will continue to still impact our lives in many ways.
  - We may not be able to see as many people face-to-face as usual, but there are lots of support services available over the phone. Please see the list on the following page.
  - You can ask for an interpreter if you need or prefer.
  - As always, please don't hesitate to speak to any of our staff if you need help.
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National Coronavirus Helpline call 131 450

\*\* If interpreter required ask to be connected to the Helpline on 1800 020 080

South Australian COVID – 19 Mental Health Support Line      1800 632 753

For update and news of COVID – 19 go to [www.sbs.com.au/coronavirus](http://www.sbs.com.au/coronavirus) (available in over 60 languages)

Lifeline                      13 11 14

Lifeline text support (6pm til midnight 7 days per week)      047 7131 114

1800 RESPECT for 24/7 Domestic Violence support                      1800 737 732

Mensline Australia   1300 789 978

Gambling Helpline   1800 022 222

Alcohol and Drug Information Service      1800 858 858

Immigrant Women's Support Service (Domestic violence and sexual assault support) (08) 8346 3490

Homelessness Gateway                      1800 003 308

Crisis Care      13 16 11

Parenting Helpline   1300 364100

Kids Helpline 1800 551 800

Headspace (12 – 25yrs)      1800 650 890

Child and Mental Health Services (CaMHS Connect)      1300 222 647

Child and Family Health Services (child health nurses) 1300 733 606  
PANDA (Perinatal Anxiety and Depression Helpline)      1300 726 306

## A joint community project with UniSA this term ...

This term we welcome three university students, Alyssa, Carrie and Maria, into our centre who are studying Occupational Therapy. Please see the flyer on the next page from them which explains the community project they are exploring in the Pennington community. While COVID-19 has changed many of these plans, we still believe the learning from this project will be beneficial to our children, families and staff. As this is a community project, the students want to ensure their project matches with what our community needs most at this time. They will be sending out a short survey soon to parents for your input – we'd appreciate 5 minutes of your time to complete the survey. Thank you.



*Remember us?!*  
*We're Alyssa, Carrie and Maria.*

We're occupational therapy students working with *Pennington Children's Centre* on a **participatory community project (PCP)** during the next eight weeks.

A PCP is a project where we work collaboratively together with the community to create a sustainable (long lasting) end result that benefits the community.

The current aim of the project is to increase the risky play opportunities in the centre, but due to the current health situation the direction of our project may change a little. We will be working together with the Pennington Children's Centre and the community around during the next 8 weeks to identify how we can best support the centre and its community.

We would love to hear from you and we're planning to update you on the project as regularly as we can. Please contact us via email:

Alyssa – [baraj030@mymail.unisa.edu.au](mailto:baraj030@mymail.unisa.edu.au)

Carrie – [bakcj006@mymail.unisa.edu.au](mailto:bakcj006@mymail.unisa.edu.au)

Maria - [ngubt005@mymail.unisa.edu.au](mailto:ngubt005@mymail.unisa.edu.au)



### Definition Alert!

You might wonder what risky play is. It sounds kind of dangerous! The good news: we won't be implementing a type of play that is dangerous to children. **Risky play** is just a term for a type of play that allows children to experience risks safely. **Risky play** includes things like running, jumping, climbing and playing independently. It's an exciting type of play that assists children's social, emotional and physical development.

