The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia

WHAT IS THE FRAMEWORK ABOUT?
The Early Years Learning Framework ensures your child receives quality education programs in their early childhood setting. This is a vital time for them to learn and develop.

The Framework’s vision is for all children to experience play-based learning that is engaging and builds success for life. It is a guide for early childhood educators who work with children from birth to five years.

We will use the Framework in partnership with families to develop learning programs responsive to children’s ideas, interests, strengths and abilities, and recognise that children learn through their play.

The Early Years Learning Framework describes childhood as a time of belonging, being and becoming.

- **Belonging** is the basis for living a fulfilling life. Children feel they belong because of the relationships they have with their family, community, culture and place.
- **Being** is about living here and now. Childhood is a special time in life and children need time to just ‘be’ – time to play, try new things and have fun.
- **Becoming** is about the learning and development that young children experience. Children start to form their sense of identity from an early age, which shapes the type of adult they will become.

Through the Framework’s five learning goals we will assist your child to develop:

- a strong sense of their identity
- connections with their world
- a strong sense of wellbeing
- confidence and involvement in their learning
- effective communication skills.

WATCHING YOUR CHILD PROGRESS
Using the Early Years Framework, we will observe your child’s learning so we can help your child build on it and plan the next steps.

We will do this by listening, watching and talking to your child. Photos will be taken and a folder of your child’s work will be created to show what your child is learning, how they are developing and what particular learning interests them.

WORKING TOGETHER
By working with you, we can enhance a child’s learning and wellbeing.

As the most important person in your child’s life, you can make a difference by talking regularly to us and asking about their learning. Information you provide allows us to link your child’s experiences at home with the time they spend together in the preschool.

“The Framework helps me to understand how skilled the staff at my centre are and what a great support they are to me and my family”
PLAY IS LEARNING

Play is very important for children. Through play young children explore and learn to understand the world around them as they come to communicate, discover, imagine and create.

When children play they are showing what they have learnt and what they are trying to understand. This is why play is one of the foundations of the Early Years Learning Framework.

By using this Framework we will guide your child’s play by carefully designing learning activities and stimulating indoor and outdoor learning environments.

“The learning outcomes are positive and help me think about how my child is progressing”

RELATIONSHIPS ARE THE KEY

It is well known that children learn best when they have secure relationships with caring adults.

When children from a very early age develop trusting relationships, they feel more confident and able to explore and learn. In early childhood settings, when children feel emotionally secure they learn through play to develop the skills and understanding they need to interact positively with others and gradually learn to take responsibility.

FIND OUT MORE

This brochure is an introduction to the Early Years Learning Framework.

To find out more or to access translations visit www.deewr.gov.au/earlychildhood or ask one of your preschool educators.