

FERNVALE STATE SCHOOL

# THE EXPLORER

LITTLE EXPLORERS PLAYGROUP WEEKLY NEWSLETTER  
3 JUNE 2021



## Welcome!

Hello to all of our Little Explorers and their explorer guides- the wonderful parents, grandparents and family day care mums who attend Playgroup.

Welcome to our new families. We are so glad that our Playgroup continues to grow and that you are spreading the word about how much fun Playgroup is.

Happy playing and talking.

*Helen Levitt*

Playgroup co-ordinator

### LITTLE EXPLORERS PLAYGROUP



Mrs Helen Levitt



Mrs Sandi Kramer





Our Learning games this week focus pre writing and writing skills.

**Learning Game 17** “Sit, Turn and Reach” helps babies from birth to 6 months learn to move their body in different ways. They learn to sit up and sit up. They learn that they can play with a toy when they reach for it. They learn to balance their body. They learn words go with actions.

**Learning Game 31** “First Crayons” helps babies aged between 6 and 12 months learn to use tools for writing and drawing. They use hand and arm muscles. They learn new words.

**Learning Game 38** “Making Lines” helps children aged between 1 and 2 years learn early writing skills. They learn to use hand and finger muscles. They learn to express themselves. They learn about lines, shapes and directions of lines. This will help them when they learn correct letter formation at school.

**Learning Game 80** “Making Os and Xs” helps children aged between 2 and 3 years learn to make circles and crossed lines. They learn that an x has 2 lines that cross. They learn that a circle curves around to where it begins. They learn about shapes and symbols. These are important pre writing skills.

**Learning Game 149** “Letters in my Name” helps children aged between 3 and 4 years learn that words are made of letters. They learn what letters look like and that letters are different to numbers, shapes and pictures. They learn to recognise the letters in their name. They learn to spell their name.

**Learning Game 179** “Writing to Someone” helps children aged between 4 and 5 years learn to feel connected to family who are far away. They learn about sending and receiving messages. It gives them the opportunity to practice reading and writing.

Let’s consider the **3N approach** when playing **Learning Game 38**, “Making Lines”. This game encourages children to use their finger, or a stick, to draw lines. This will help strengthen your child’s fingers and their knowledge of how they use them. These are important pre writing skills. However, if YOU sit with your child and talk to them whilst they are doing this, and make your talk intentional, you can make your child’s learning greater. You can use suggestions (Nudge) to increase their vocabulary. For example, you might Notice that they draw squiggly lines. You might say “You’re drawing squiggly lines. Look how they bend” “Can you draw some straight lines?” (Nudge) and then you can Narrate with “Look at the straight lines that you are drawing.” Then you might Nudge with “Make the lines touch each other.” and Narrate as they do this, etc. This game can help with your child’s understanding of so many maths concepts- eg, length, number, pathways. This game is suggested for children aged between 1 and 2 years of age, but I hope that you can see that by you talking with your child, there is so much potential learning that all age groups can benefit from doing this activity.

### 3a Strategy

**Nudge, Notice, Narrate**

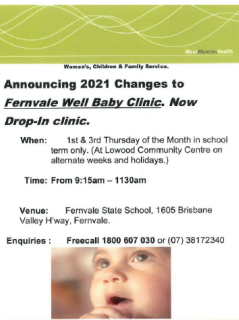
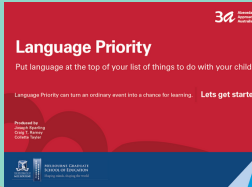
**Using the 3N Strategy**



*Notice...*I notice you found the blocks.  
*Nudge...*Can you place them on top of each other  
*Narrate...*If you put four on top of each other...1 2 3 4  
*Notice..* I notice you have found the red block  
*Nudge...*Can you see any other red block  
*Narrate...* You have found three other red blocks. You are putting them on top of each other. It looks like a tower.

Having that conversation and noticing what your child is doing is very important, this helps with their language skills, identifying objects, colours and also supporting them with their independence through play.

**CLICK ON THE PICTURE FOR MORE INFORMATION!**



**Our FSS Baby Clinic is now a drop in clinic!**

