

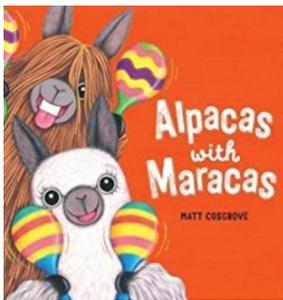
Week 5 Term 2, 2019

Hello to all of our Little Explorers and their explorer guides- the wonderful parents, grandparents and family day care mums who come to Playgroup. It is an inspiration to see all of you trying out our Learning Games.

Playgroup is open to everyone with a child aged from birth to school age.

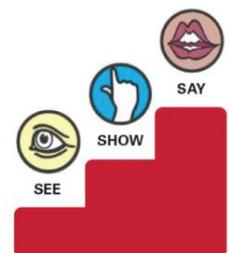
Each week Learning games for babies and toddlers (as well as older children) are planned. These games are aimed at helping to create a bond between parent/carer and child.

- This week's **Learning Game** for children aged up to 6 months of age is called "Prop Baby up" (Game 8). It is designed to help baby exercise their neck muscles, to use their eyes and hands together, and to hear new words. Look for the learning Game card in the room on the table near the mirror.
- **Learning Game 19**, recommended for children aged between 6 months and 12 months is "Name Pictures when Baby looks". It is designed to help baby learn that pictures show us real things, and about looking at books.
- **Learning Game 84**, "Using a different Voice" is all about having fun with your voice. It helps your child learn to listen carefully and that they can use their voice in new ways. It has been designed for children aged between 2 to 3 years of age, but even adults have fun when using their voice in a variety of ways when reading a story.



You may notice that the Learning Games this week are all about stories and books. This is intentional. This week is National Simultaneous Story Day. National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. This year's story is "Alpacas with Maracas" and I can't wait to share it with you.

This week is also a great opportunity to tell you about another strategy that we can use to help foster children's language development. It is called "**Conversational Reading**". This is like a conversation and the talk goes back and forth between you and your child and doesn't always follow the words in a book. Babies can participate in Conversational Reading by looking and pointing. They do not always have to talk to be part of the "conversation". Children sit on your lap or beside you when you do conversational reading. We think **3S** to help us remember how to do this. (See, Show, Say – 3a strategy). We have a strategy sticker in the front of our Playgroup books to help you with this. We also have a bookmark for you with this information, which you can collect Thursday. I will talk more about this strategy in the future.



Didn't the children have fun with the cardboard boxes last week! If you wouldn't mind, could you please save small cardboard boxes, eg toothpaste boxes, so that one day we can have a box construction day. If you have cereal boxes, would you please cut the front and back off of these and bring to Playgroup. They make sturdy bases for collages.

I'm looking forward to see you again on Thursday.

Happy playing and talking.

Helen Levitt,

Playgroup Co-ordinator