Diversity and rights
Resource booklet for families

This resource booklet has been designed to accompany the learning from home resources designed for teachers. Each booklet covers a different learning area and is designed to be used by families in the home so they can offer play experiences that will support their child’s learning in this area. It also unpacks some of the learning that will happen.

The learning outcome that links to this resource booklet is:

**Learning Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world**

- Children respond to diversity with respect
- Children become aware of fairness

The diversity in family life means that all children experience life in different ways and have a different view of the world. There are many opportunities through play and discussions at home to explore different ways of living, being and thinking. This will help children to understand difference and their right to be an individual with their own ideas about the world.

Families are encouraged to investigate and explore play experiences incorporating local Aboriginal history and culture, when and where appropriate.

Diversity

As a family, it is easy to get used to the way you live and do things. It is important to help your child understand difference and that all families live in different ways and people think about things differently. Play experiences and conversations with your child at home can support their understanding of diversity.

**Play experiences**

- Research homes all around the world with your child and discuss the types of houses people live in. This builds your child’s understanding that there is more than one way to live and experience life.
- Research food from various cultures and discuss where the foods originally came from and how many people enjoy these foods.
- Look at things from other cultures and compare what is the same and what is different. Talk about why things and people are different to encourage deeper thinking. For example, because the weather is very hot or cold or that type of food is plentiful.
- Use role-play at different times during the day and have discussions about how you might be the same in some ways and different in other ways.
• Read stories to extend the discussion about diversity. For example: All my friends and me, The Colours of Us, Colours of Australia (song).
• Talk about differences and similarities amongst your family and friends within your community groups. Referring to people your child knows helps them recognise and appreciate different values, beliefs and needs.
• Talk about culture with your child. What are our family’s experiences, values and beliefs?

Questions to support your child's learning

• How is that the same or different from our own home?
• How is that the same or different to what we eat?
• How did the people celebrate their differences in the story?
• Why is it a good thing that we are all different?
• What would the world be like if we were all the same?
• Do your friends all live in the same way as you and your family?

What will your child learn?

• Appreciate other people’s ideas and respect different ways of thinking, being and doing
• Become aware of ways people are included or excluded from physical and social environments
• Learn about a range of cultures and countries and how they differ from their own

Rights

Through games and interactions with others in the home, your child can begin to realise and respect the fact that they and others have the right to be an individual. Talking to your child about their rights from a young age helps them to feel important and valued.

Play experiences

• Play a variety of group games, including board games with your child. Discuss rules of the game and fair play throughout to build your child’s understanding of fairness. Talk about how everyone can be included in the game.
• Talk about responsibilities within the house and ask your child to help you create a fair roster where everyone can contribute to the daily tasks. Discuss fairness and why everyone should be helping to encourage your child’s thinking about equality and contribution.
• Decide on a topic and ask your child to ask their family members and friends what their opinion on the topic is. Help your child record everybody’s ideas to learn about people’s right to their own opinion and build respect for other people’s ideas.
• Talk to your child about what their rights are and how they want to be treated by other people. Help them record what they come up with through images or words. This helps them to build a positive image of themselves and how they want to be treated.

Questions to support your child’s learning

• Talk about what might be fair and unfair regularly throughout games you are playing. For example, do you think that is fair? Why are there rules?
• Discuss ways to make sure no one is left out and everyone is included. For example, has everybody had a turn?
• Ask your child what their ideas are about a topic and discuss how they are different to others. What do you think about...? How is that different to what … thought?
• What do you like most about spending time with other people? Is there anything that worries you when you spend time with others?

What will your child learn?

• Respect for others and an awareness of each person’s rights and perspectives
• The difference between fair and unfair behaviour
• The right to express opinions and be listened to, while appreciating other people’s right to this