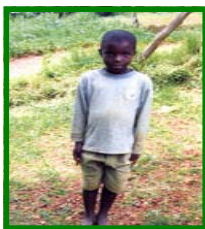


WHEN & WHERE

Our Centre operates each Monday from 10am—12 noon (0-5's with parents) and an optional afternoon session for the 3 ½ year olds to stay on for with the help of another supervising adult. We operate for the four terms of the school year with the exception of Public Holidays. We meet each week in our Playcentre Room at the Ungarra Primary School. You can find us opposite the town tennis courts (not the Complex).

WHAT TO BRING

Fees per session are \$2 per family (morning session only) or \$5 if a family has a child staying for the afternoon. Although fees are not compulsory, this money goes towards the general running and equipment needs of the centre and helps us with our sponsor child Nicholas Twinamasko from Uganda.



Each week children bring a piece of fruit to share and during Terms 1 and 4 the wearing of a broad-brimmed hat for outside play is required. Parents also require hats. A change of clothes is a good idea too.

CHILD & YOUTH HEALTH

Our centre is visited on a regular basis by Child & Youth Health, where they conduct health checks and answer any questions parents may have. From time to time we have other visitors such as police, dieticians etc. etc.

WHAT HAPPENS

Your Playcentre Coordinator will have planned an array of interesting and challenging activities for you and your children to enjoy amongst some more structured group times.

FRUIT TIME

Each child is asked to bring a piece of fruit to share. Parents cut this up for fruit time. This usually occurs between 11-11.15 am depending on what's happening and usually last for around 5-10 minutes, while we enjoy a story. During this brief time it is important that all children remain seated whilst eating even if it means nursing your child. The hazards of choking are very high in young children so I ask for your assistance with this.

After washing their hands, children will have their own special 'fruit mat' to sit on. When fruit time is finished they put their bowl in the sink, their mat away and are then free to resume play. Children learn what is expected very quickly.

HEALTHY EATING

The Ungarra Playcentre is a DECS site and therefore we aim to promote healthy eating. Please make sure that food brought for sharing is appropriate and check that there are no allergies that may prohibit a child from sharing the experience. If you are not sure, please ask.

All children celebrating birthdays will be acknowledged with a birthday song and the making of a birthday hat, depending on their age. With the large number of enrolments at present, please remind your Coordinator if it's your child is having a birthday in that week.

If you would like your child acknowledged in a different way, please talk to your Coordinator beforehand.

OUTINGS & SPECIAL DAYS

Generally at the end of each school term we have a pooled luncheon or other event to celebrate our achievements. Most terms we also incorporate an excursion to a place of interest.

GROUP TIMES

Your child will learn many things during these times including such skills as:

- Turn-taking
- Sharing
- Listening
- Social interactions
- Following instructions
- Concentrations skills and much more.



Children learn by our example.



Young children can learn very quickly about what is expected in a group situation with your help. If your child has difficulty sitting and concentrating try sitting down behind them, or nursing them.

If you remain quiet and attentive, then they'll learn to as well. This is only such a short time and I promise to keep it interesting!

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- HAVE FUN WITH YOUR CHILD
- DON'T BE AFRAID TO LET YOUR HAIR DOWN!
- GUIDE YOUR CHILD TO NEW ACTIVITIES AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO 'HAVE A GO!'
- MODEL THE ACTIVITY FOR THEM TO COPY RATHER THAN DOING IT FOR THEM
- DISCIPLINE YOUR OWN CHILD
- LEAVING THE CENTRE TIDY IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS-PLEASE DO YOUR BIT.

Our Centre's Safe Policy

- No running inside
- No shouting
- Don't hurt but respect each other

NOTE: Most potential situations can be 'nipped in the bud' with good supervision by diverting their attention elsewhere.

I am here to help if you are having difficulties.

***** PLEASE *****

Send your children in old clothes. If Pro Hart was never allowed to get in a mess.....?

Praise your child's efforts.
Promoting your child's self esteem is one of the most important starts in life you can give them.

THE ROLL BOOK



Filling in the roll book on arrival is one of the most important duties. The roll book is the tool your Coordinator turns to in an emergency such as a fire to know numbers etc. and is important for the Centre's Statistics which need to be sent in to the Department each Term. Attendance can be marked with either a tick or the amount paid.

CO-ORDINATOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Your Coordinator is responsible to the Department of Education, Training and Employment for the following:

- Keeping accurate records
- Providing a range of suitable activities for children aged 0-5 in line with the SACSA framework
- Establishing routines
- Encouraging parents and children to become involved
- Attending regular trainings, workshops and conferences
- Keeping parents informed
- Ensuring that the Centre runs smoothly.
- Attending to any Grievance issues
- Promoting DECS's policies and guidelines

*An Introduction
to the:*

UNGARRA PLAYCENTRE



Playcentre offers an extremely worthwhile service to both children and parents through social contact and the opportunity to be involved with others.

Your contact person:

Lisa Fitzgerald
Ph 86 880083 a/h
Or contact the
Ungarra Primary School on:
86 888029