

BABYCCINO PARENT NEWSLETTER

TRANSITIONING TO SCHOOL!

Here at Babyccino we strive to ensure our children have a positive start to school in which we follow the 'Transition to School Guide for Early Childhood Education' to do so. It assists us as educators to deliver educational programs that develop the skills and attributes children need for a successful start to school.

A POSITIVE START

This Transition to School Guide that Babyccino utilises, highlights the importance of ensuring a positive start to school for all children. With this our curriculum is designed to promote discovery, creativity, imagination and improvisation in young children using play based learning.



BELONGING TO SCHOOL



Learning Goal

To develop diverse perspectives within children to encourage greater acceptance, understanding and belonging within their new school environment.

Our Activities

- We participated in group time discussing the reasons we go to school and what we need to know about school by watching an educational storybook called 'Daisy's First Day'.
- In our arts and craft, we wanted to recognise and learn about different family structures and diversity the children may come across at school. We traced our hands and decorated them, then we stuck mums, dads, brothers, sisters, grandparents and animals on our fingers to show our household... some needed two hands! This showed the children that everyone is different and it is important to respect our differences.



Links to Early Learning Years Framework 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 4.3, 4.4

INDEPENDANT LEARNING & AGENCY

Learning Goal

To develop a sense of agency within children, encouraging them to make their own choices and influence decisions that affect them.

Our Activities

- Setting personal goals is an important for creating opportunities for learning and development. We spent time to help set a goal with each child. Including; writing my name by the end of the year, learning the whole alphabet, practising my numbers everyday and sharing the toys when someone asks to use it.
- Our curriculum ensures that the children have the opportunity for free play to allow children to be selective and responsive within a multifunctional environment. We created an "I wonder" and "I learnt" chart to inquire and answer the questions children have when their learning, captured during their free play.



Links to Early Learning Years Framework 1.2, 1.3, 3.1, 4.1, 5.1, 5.3

DEVELOPING HEALTHY EATING HABITS



Learning Goal

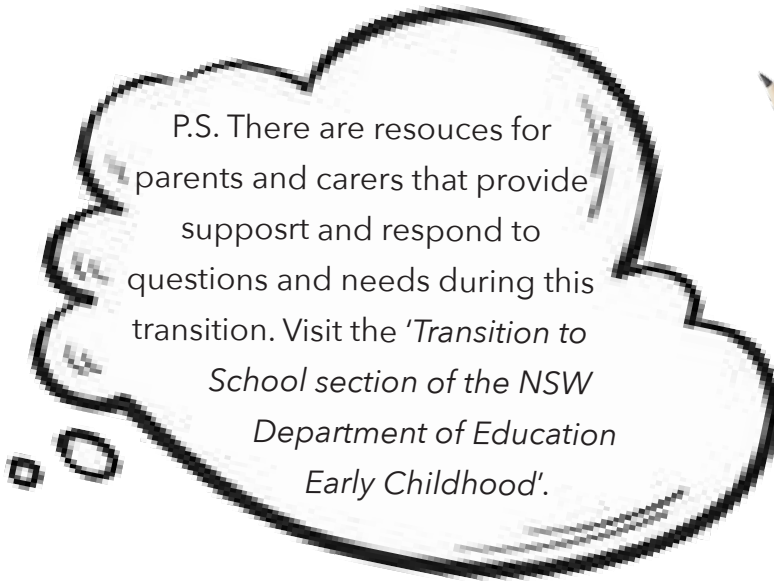
To familiarise children with qualities associated with different kinds of food, such as the taste, texture and appearance of food, to increase the likelihood of acceptance of food and better support children in choosing food that is right for them.

Our Activities

- Every Tuesday we have organised the children that are transitioning to school to bring a lunchbox with food to eat for the day. We remind everyone how important it is to have healthy snacks in our lunch box and we need to eat those before anything else. We also discuss the importance of not sharing food due to allergies and examples of different allergies.
- When we eat lunch our lunch, we discuss and describe the smell and taste of what we are eating as well as taking note of the colour and texture. For example, making note that pasta is softer and smoother than rice. After we have had this group discussion over lunch, Courtney and Charlotte go through the ingredient that are in their food and that country they originate in to familiarise them.

Links to Early Years Framework 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 4.3, 4.4

BABYCCINO PARENT NEWSLETTER



P.S. There are resources for parents and carers that provide support and respond to questions and needs during this transition. Visit the *'Transition to School section of the NSW Department of Education Early Childhood'*.



NEW ROUTINES

Learning Goal

To assist children in understanding the routines and practices of the school setting.

Our Activities

- We implement a routine in our curriculum which is placed on the door entrance of each room for children, educators and parents to view. This routine chart includes an analog clock with the time that each activity occurs throughout the day and an explanation with what we do during the activity. For new families and children familiarise themselves with our routine they are able to access the routine when they need.
- We read a book from the "My First Millstone" series by Amber Stewart and Layn Marlow called "My First Day" in which we discussed how the duckling felt on his first day and followed his journey through. It spoke about how your families and friends can help you on your first day in different ways.

Links to Early Learning Years Framework 1.2, 3.2, 4.1, 4.3

WHAT TO EXPECT IN A SCHOOL DAY

Learning Goal

To introduce children to the different types of routines they might encounter in a normal school day and to normalise the feelings associated with spending a full day at school each day.

Our Activities

- In group time, all the children participated in craft to create a board such as a van diagram for similarities and differences about Babyccino and the school they will be attending. In a group, we discussed and wrote down our routine and the activities we participate in. We then looked at a school curriculum from another public school and compared. We found that both schools have free play in the morning but only our school has a dress up box in the playground, also that we all sit down for lunch, but at the other school they can sit on the ground in the playground rather than at tables. Another is, at pick up time we play until our parents come but at school, we wait in a pick up line.

Links to Early Learning Years Framework 1.3, 1.4, 2.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3

MUSIC EDUCATION

Learning Goal

To expose children to high quality music in a variety of genres.

Our Activities

- Babyccino participates in music and movement which is in our curriculum to ensure our kids are staying physically active and stimulating them both musically and rhythmically. We sing and dance everyday and it is one of the children's favourite things to do.
- Before afternoon tea we sit in a group and sing our favorite songs. We learn about different instruments and rhythms as well as what a chorus is. Leading up to Christmas we learn Christmas carols for our Christmas party that we have every year for parents to come and watch.
- The children enjoy playing games that teach them rhythm and patterns. Courtney or Charlotte will demonstrate a clapping rhythm and the children have to follow the rhythm after. We then take turns to stand in the middle of the circle and follow the rhythm.

Links to Early Learning Years Framework 1.3, 4.1, 4.3, 5.3, 5.4