

Play is the key way children learn about themselves, others and the world they live in. It is essential to their learning, development, health, and physical, mental and social well-being – and it's FUN! Play provides the building blocks to be ready for school.



Doll Play

Having dolls available at playgroup that represent the diversity in the community helps all children feel a sense of identity and belonging.

Did you know?

Acting out roles and interacting through doll play with other children allows your child to develop and practice language and social skills. These skills of sharing, cooperation, helping and problem solving are important for both boys and girls.

Add language

Sometimes join in with doll play at the children's level – let them lead the play and you can add the language to match what they are doing. Keep the conversation going by adding comments and asking only occasional questions.

Other development

Include paper and things to write with so the children have opportunities to practice "writing" within their doll play scenarios.



Variations

Varying the props available with the dolls can vary the play and allow the children to explore other roles and situations. For example the home corner could be turned into: a hospital and the dolls become the patients; an airport and the dolls become passengers; or chairs could be set up to look like the inside of a bus.

- Playgroup WA has a treasure trove of play activities for babies, toddlers and 3-5 year olds, for home and playgroup. These play activities cover a balanced diet of play across sensory, movement, language and thinking skill areas.

You can find them at www.playgroupwa.com.au/playideas or visit www.facebook.com/playgroupwa