



5th SNAICC National Conference

For Our Children: Living and Learning Together

4 - 6 June 2013, Cairns

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS - SUMMARY FROM PRESENTERS

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| Session Number | 12 Playpower |
| Your Presentation Title | Beyond The Rainbow and into The Dreamtime: a story-play program for children 3-8 years |
| Abstract /Summary of Presentation (1/2 to 1 page) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • objectives • main ideas, topics and findings • evidence? • Outcomes? | <p>Objective: To introduce the educational benefits of story-play using Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal stories for children 3-8 years</p> <p>Main ideas: Story-play is a strategy to develop the early learning skills of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language & comprehension • Focussed attention and sustained concentration • Sequential thinking for reading-readiness • Higher level thinking such as problem-solving, cause & effect, prediction, speculation etc • Familiarity with Aboriginal culture through stories, stone story & symbol play • A respect for and love of the Australian Dreamtime <p>Research / evidence / outcomes</p> <p><i>Beyond The Rainbow and into The Dreamtime</i> is used in the research-based early intervention programs at OzChild. The studies completed in partnership with Deakin University show the following outcomes when children participate in this program:</p> <p>Study 1: (2007)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imaginative play increased by 15 months in a 6 month period • A 9 month increase in language in a 6 month period <p>Study 2: (2008 -9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased logical sequencing in play activities leading to more elaborate play when using both conventional toys and unstructured objects • Boys in particular increased in their ability to sequence their play actions with both conventional and unstructured objects • The real gains were in Expressive Language with parents noticing children talking more (which became apparent from the early stages of the study) • Children's social skills in groups improved significantly <p>Summary: Children's level of involvement in the <i>Beyond The Rainbow</i> enhances their reading-readiness skills and is most beneficial as a transition-to-school program and play-based curriculum. The program models to parents how to play meaningfully with their children in the preschool years using Aboriginal cultural stories and symbols.</p> |

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| References if applicable | |
| Presenter Contact Details (email address and telephone number) | |