Educational Children's Activities

Children learn through play as well as formal programs or activities. Below is a list of different Australian Government programs and activities to engage your child.

**The Playground**

The Playground is the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s (ABC) website for children and their carers.

The Playground is a rich and happy environment for children to explore as well as a detailed information point with easy access to everything you need to know about your favourite ABC Kids' characters, TV programs and online games.

The Playground is designed to be accessible to young users. Its intuitive navigation and interaction makes it super easy for children in preschool to find their way around without the need of an adult. Parents and carers can relax while children explore this site—it is a safe, friendly and easy-to-use environment in which children will have fun and learn.

To find out more and start exploring the site, please visit [The Playground](http://mychild.gov.au/).

**Active After-school Communities**

The Active After-school Communities program is a national initiative that provides primary school children with access to free sport and other structured physical activity programs in the after-school time slot of 3.00 pm to 5.30 pm.

The program aims to engage traditionally inactive children in sport and other structured physical activities and, through a positive and fun experience, develop a love of sport that inspires them to join a local sporting club.

To find out how you can get involved, please visit the [Active After-school Communities program](http://mychild.gov.au/) website.

**PlayConnect (autism program)**

PlayConnect Playgroups are designed to help families of children with autism through play based activities. It’s also a great opportunity for connecting with other families in similar circumstances to your own. Any family that has a child aged 0-6 who has Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), or ASD-like behaviours, is welcome to join a PlayConnect Playgroup. Your child does not need a formal ASD diagnosis to join a PlayConnect Playgroup. For more information, visit the [PlayConnect](http://mychild.gov.au/) section of the [Playgroups Australia](http://mychild.gov.au/) website.

**Playgroups**

Playgroup is an informal session that gives children (under school age) the chance to socialise and interact with other children and adults. Parents, grandparents and carers are usually involved in the children's activities. Playgroups are generally set up and run by parents and carers. Activities at playgroup are either free or low-cost, and may include:

- music and singing
- imaginative play
- outdoor and free play
- art and craft activities
outings.

Playgroup can be held anywhere that is safe for children and where groups of people can meet—community and neighbourhood centres, health clinics, women's centres, pre-schools and kindergartens, church halls and even in someone's house. Playgroups are different from child care because parents stay with their children rather than leave them in someone else's care. For information about the availability of playgroups in your local area, please visit the Playgroups Australia website or call 1800 171 882.

Vacation care and activities

Vacation care is a type of outside-school hours care. Vacation care services provide care which includes creative indoor and outdoor activities. These services are sometimes run by the same organisation that runs before and after-school care. To locate a vacation care provider in your local area, please use the search option on this website. Other vacation activities are often organised by local councils. Please contact your local council for more details.

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA)

ACECQA is an independent statutory authority providing national leadership in promoting quality and continuous improvement in early childhood education and care and school age care in Australia.


Early childhood

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations index page for early childhood.


Early years learning framework

The early years learning framework describes the principles, practice and outcomes essential to support and enhance young children’s learning from birth to five years of age, as well as their transition to school.


My time, our place: framework for school age care in Australia

The Council of Australian Governments developed My time, our place...(The Framework) to assist school-age-care educators to provide children with opportunities to maximise their potential and develop a foundation for future success in life.

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Earlychildhood/Policy_Agenda/Pages/FrameSchAgeCare.aspx

National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care

The National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care applies to most long day care, family day care, preschool and kindergarten, and outside schools hours care services. The Framework is a national approach to the regulation and quality assessment of early childhood education and care services.


http://www.kidsandtraffic.mq.edu.au/

http://www.kidsafensw.org/
http://www.kidsafensw.org/playground-safety/
http://www.kidsafensw.org/road-safety/
http://www.kidsafensw.org/water-safety/