**PLANING A PLAYGROUP SESSION TRANSCRIPT**

Mikayla Cronin: So, when I'm thinking about playgroup and what I have to do, I observe parents, especially as they're coming into playgroup. Sometimes that's how they're feeling for the day is how they enter playgroup. They're either stressed, happy, got something really good to share or they're really upset. So I observe how the parents are coming into playgroup, and say good morning and make sure that they're doing okay for the day. I'm also observing the children and what they're doing. My aim for a facilitated playgroup is to make sure that I'm giving parents a quality experience when they come.

Ryan Nugent: It's funny though because it's like the activities you think will work generally don't, and it's those surprising activities that are a lot of the time just on the spot or that a child leads that activity are the ones that are real winners. It's amazing what a child's mind can teach itself. We're just there to facilitate that learning. A lot of the time planning a group is as easy as listening to the child.

Sarah Irwin: So when we plan for a playgroup session, we usually run off observations that we've done before on children, so we're child-focused. We also want to take the child's lead when it comes to play. We make sure that we've got activities that are focused on development for that child or maybe something to engage a parent with as well. What really brings them out of the shell is seeing other children participating in games and stories and getting involved and they slowly build their confidence as well to be able to do that.

Melissa Hensler: Planning a session my thoughts are around development stages. I'm thinking age groups, what they need to develop, so sensory activities, fine motor activities, gross motor activities. Each term I have a different theme. This theme for this term is a vet hospital.

Mikayla Cronin: When I'm planning a playgroup session I always think about who the children are, what their interests are and what they might need a little bit of help with. So the activities that I plan will be an activity that I know that they can do really well and then I'll also set out an activity that might challenge them a little bit but with their parents' help and continuing doing that every week, by the end of a few weeks they'll be able to do it really well.

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