



Christmas is well on its way and much of the fun and anticipation for children is in cooking, creating and decorating. There are lots of cheap, cheerful and imaginative ideas accessible through the internet for you and the children to explore.

When deciding on what to make, think about the ages and developmental stages of the children in your care, what they are interested in and how much what they make is actually their own work. Involving them in activities that represent their individuality, allows them to learn new skills and practice ones they have already mastered, and will help to keep them interested and engaged.

**2019 diaries:** many educators use diaries for their planning and documentation. There is quite a selection available, including from Butler Creative, ECA, Queensland FDC, and FDC NSW, all worth a look. The scheme is not bulk ordering this year – the use of a diary is a very individual choice.



### November emails:

- Children's advice and referral line information
- Living & learning with gratitude short course
- Jeanette's FDC equipment sale
  - Dirt Girl Concert
- Royal Life Saving January 1<sup>st</sup> Aid course
- Angela's leave and Robyn's periodic absences

**Toy library** – retired educator Jan McGrath has kindly donated some equipment for the toy library, including a wooden doll's house, microwave, stove and building blocks. These are now available for borrowing, so come and have a look.

**Hot topic:** Children are chattier outdoors, according to research published in the *Journal of Environmental Psychology*. Conversations flowed better and were more responsive when children and their parents were outdoors rather than inside. Researchers suggest that being outdoors and in nature reduces stress and improves mood in both children and adults. You could try a scavenger hunt as you are walking along – biggest leaf, smallest leaf, biggest seed pod, smoothest rock, best walking stick, etc; or try lying on the ground finding animals in the clouds, counting the time on a dandelion clock. ....

Healthy Hobart has a range of free sessions in Hobart's parks and reserves until 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 and suitable for all ages and abilities. Visit [hobartcity.com.au/healthyhobart](http://hobartcity.com.au/healthyhobart) for more information.



**Don't forget:** Ronald McDonald donations, due by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Educator's Christmas party – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas celebrations at play sessions

CPR is to be updated within the 12 month period

Evacuations and invacuations are to be practiced within each 12 week period