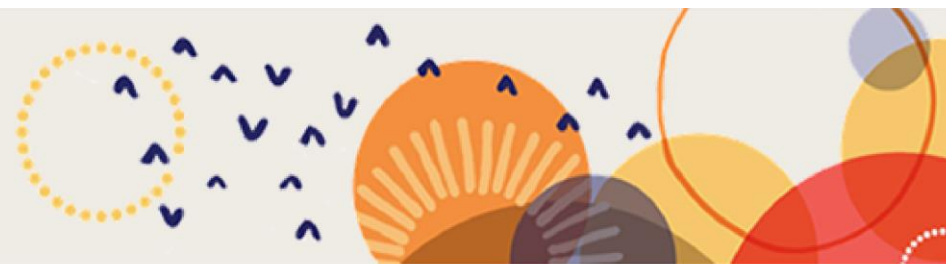




One For All



Inviting Spaces in Practice

Practical examples for creating inclusive learning spaces in OSHC



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The Inclusion Support Programme (ISP) is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education. As part of the ISP, the Victorian Inclusion Agency is led by Community Child Care Association, and is delivered in partnership with Yooralla and KU Children's Services.



Bug-A-Lugs
Macedon Ranges
offers children the
opportunity to take
on leadership roles.

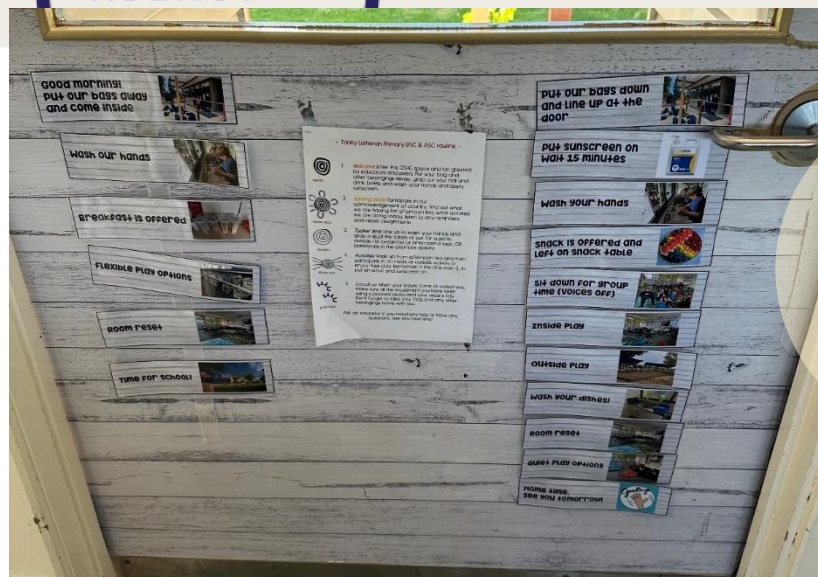
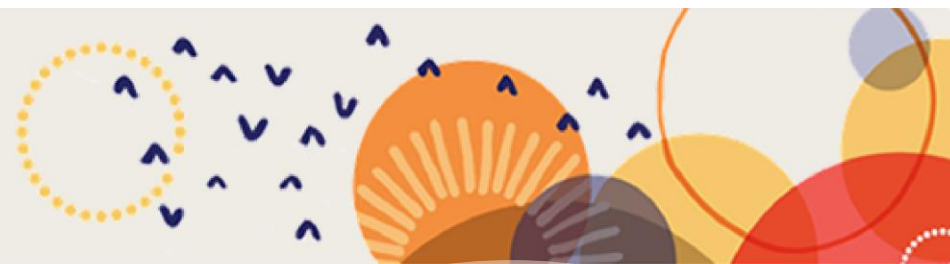
Lake Boga OSHC followed children's interest in food/gardening by creating their own veggie patch. Bunnings donated supplies and sent someone out to assist.



Why it stands out

- Initiated through children's interests, encouraging engagement and ownership
- Supported by community partnerships
 - Provided hands-on learning about sustainability and healthy eating
- Offered inclusive opportunities for all children to participate and contribute
- Encourages leadership, independence and responsibility through real-life roles and routines
- Fosters a sense of pride, belonging and contribution within the OSHC community





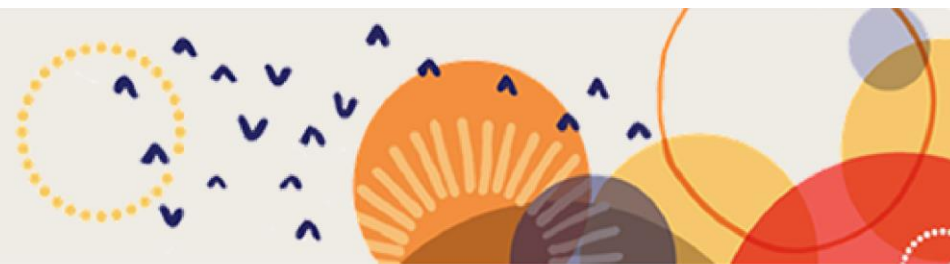
Camp Australia
Trinity Lutheran
College Mildura
OSHC use a
photographic
visual schedule

Why it stands out

- Supports all children's understanding of daily routines through clear visual cues
 - Displayed at children's height
- Encourages independence and confidence as children navigate the schedule themselves
 - Aids in transitions between activities, reducing anxiety and uncertainty
 - Inclusive of diverse learning needs, especially for visual learners and children with additional needs / children who can not yet read
- Promotes a sense of security and predictability within the OSHC environment



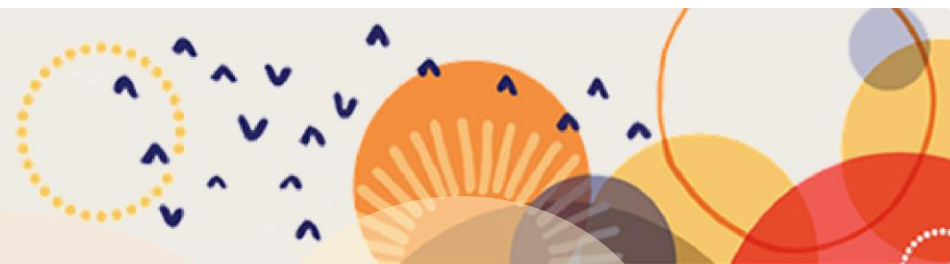
Merri Creek Primary
School OSHC use a
photographic menu
visual. They have also
incorporated Pokémon
Cards in to their
educator photo's.



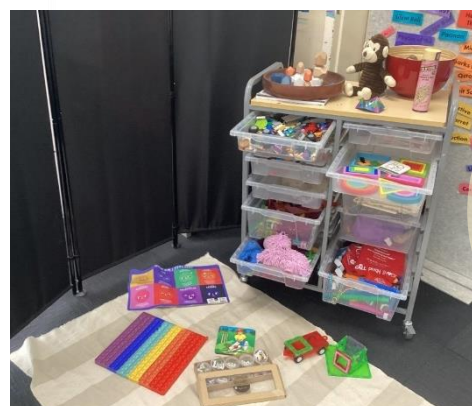
Stepping Stones
Mildura West OSHC
incorporate several
sensory play
opportunities into
their program.

Why it stands out

- Provides a calming, self-regulation tool for children who need sensory input
- Supports inclusive practices by catering to diverse learning needs and styles
- Enhances fine motor skills and cognitive development through hands-on activities
- Reflects thoughtful planning and values child-led and sensory rich experiences
- Encourages exploration through touch, sight and sound, supporting holistic development



Camp Australia Montmorency OSHC have multiple quiet areas.



Merri Creek Primary School provide a sensory fidget trolley in their quiet area.

Why it stands out

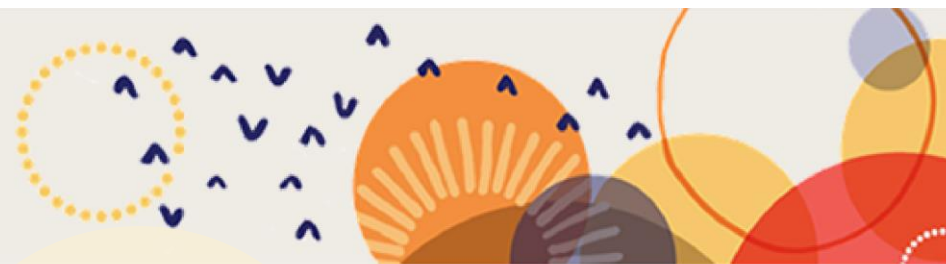
- Offers children safe, calm spaces to self-regulate and unwind
- Reflects the needs and interests of the children at the children
- Quiet areas are reduced in sound and light, helping to minimise sensory overstimulation
- Recognises the importance of mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Encourages autonomy by allowing children to choose how they manage their quiet time
- Supports inclusion by catering to children with anxiety, sensory processing needs or those simply needs a break

Westgarth Primary School OSHC have developed a quiet area with teddies, cushions and visual prompts.



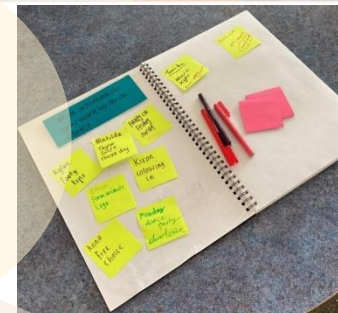
Camp Australia Kangaroo Flat offer sensory tool kids in their quiet area that incorporate visuals.





Camp Australia Kangaroo Flat uses sticky notes on a board to capture children and family voices.

St Mary's Primary School OSHC asks children/family to write their ideas/reflections in a journal.

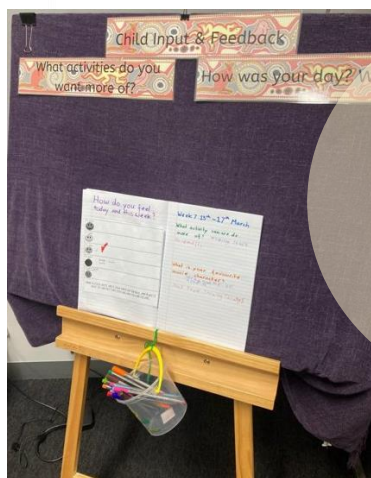


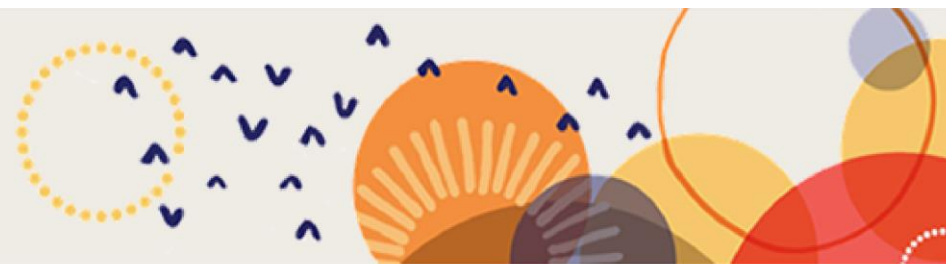
Merri Creek Primary School OSHC encourages feedback through a post box.

Why it stands out

- Empowers children and family members to share their ideas, opinions and preferences in meaningful ways
- Promotes a sense of agency, belonging and respect within the learning community
- Informs program planning by reflecting children's interests, needs and evolving identifies
- Encourages democratic decision-making and collaboration among peers
- Strengthens relationships between educators, families and children through

Camp Australia Girtton Grammer School OSHC captures the children's voices with a large journal children/families can reflect in.





Stepping Stones
Mildura West OSHC
offer a digging patch
with recycled
materials/loose parts
to support
exploration.

Why it stands out

- Supports hands-on, active learning through real-world, sensory-rich experiences
- Encourages problem-solving, creativity, and resilience through open-ended play and construction
- Strengthens connections between home and service through meaningful parent participation
- Fosters collaboration and teamwork across different age groups
- Create opportunities for children to explore STEM concepts in playful, practical ways

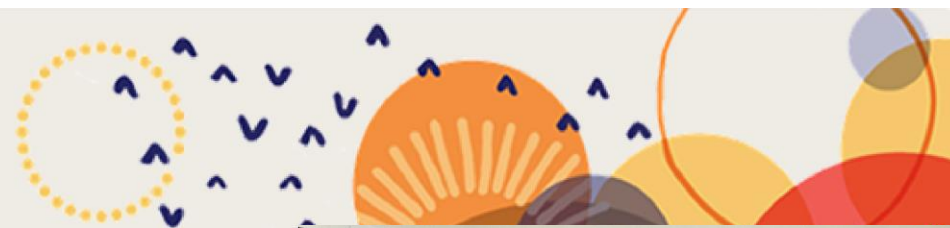


Merri Creek
Primary School
OSHC run a
carpentry club and
encourage family
participation.





One For All



Merri Creek Primary School OSHC offer a Calligraphy Club- exploring Chinese calligraphy and learning about Chinese culture.



Westgarth Primary School OSHC celebrate IDAHOBIT Day with a display children created.

Why it stands out

- Celebrates and affirms cultural and social diversity within the community
- Promotes inclusion and respect for all identities
- Provides visual representation and supports belonging for children and families from diverse backgrounds
- Encourages conversations around culture, identity, and respect from an early age
- Reflects a commitment to equity and social justice in education



Merri Creek Primary School OSHC display an Acknowledgement of Country and a range of flags. They also celebrate a range of culturally significant events throughout the year, such as Harmony Week.



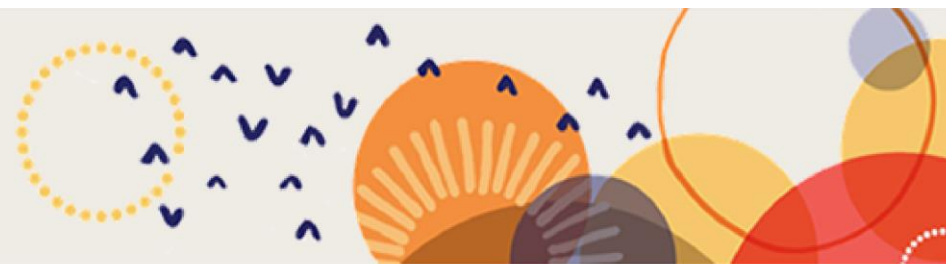
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Inviting Spaces in Practice

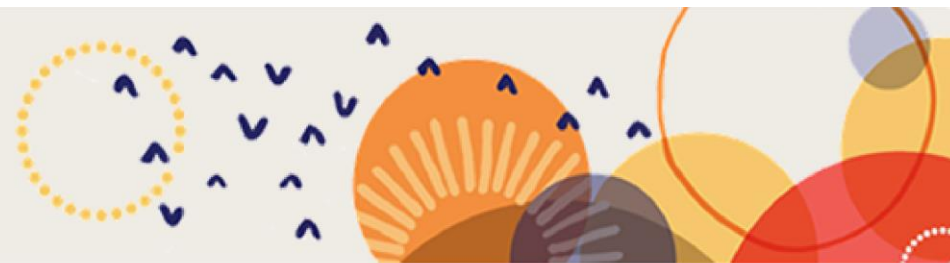
Practical examples for creating inclusive learning spaces in Centre Based Day Care



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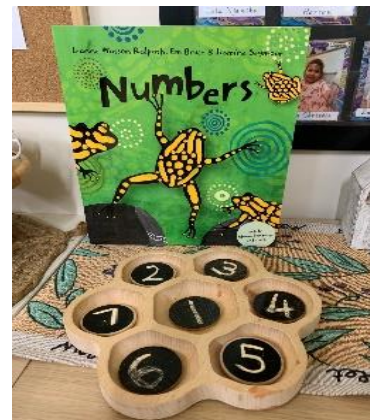
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Goodstart Early Learning Conway Court have embedded a diverse range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander resources and play spaces within their care environments.

Why it stands out

- It is in line with the services Reconciliation Action Plan
- Cultural learning is embedded meaningfully within everyday environments
- Provided a variety of sensory and visual experiences to support engagement
- Created inclusive spaces that invite curiosity, respect and connection

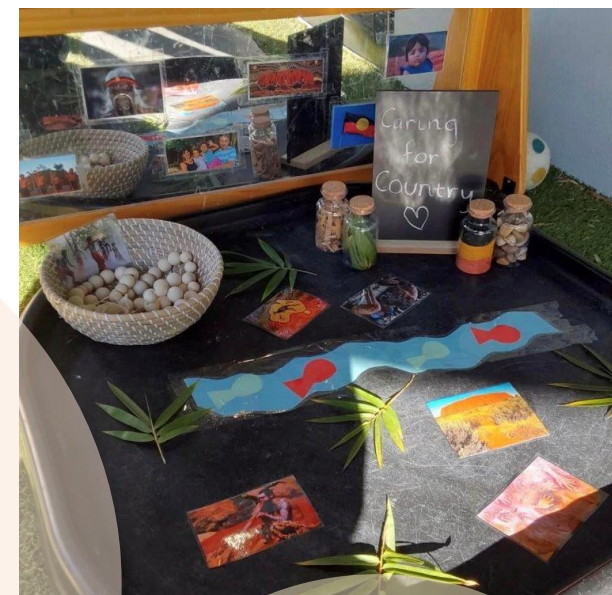




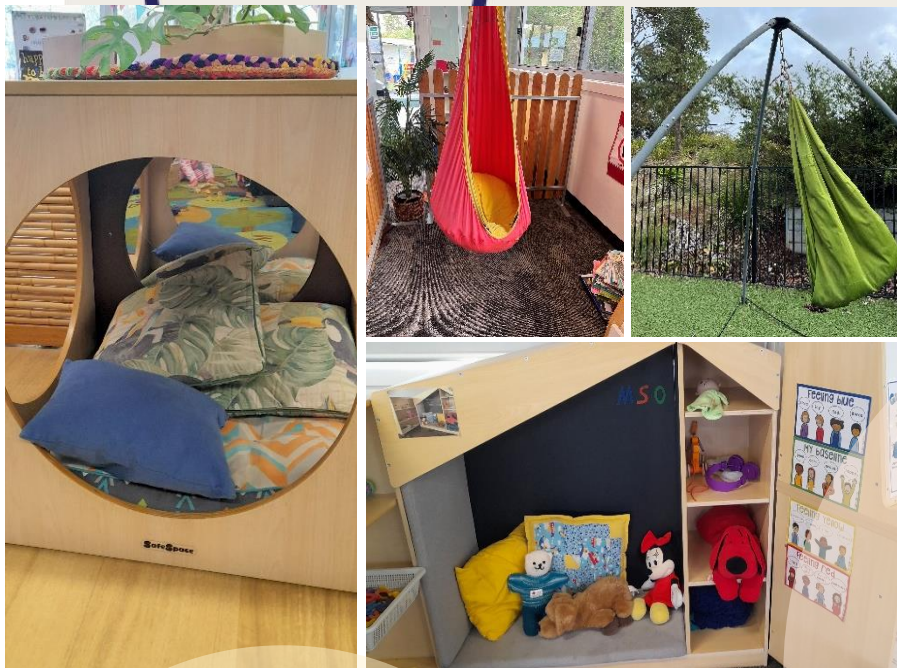
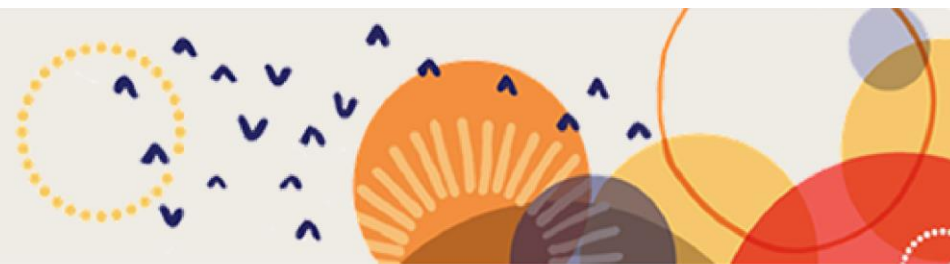
Mandalay Early Learning Centre provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander perspectives through craft.

Why it stands out

- Promotes cultural awareness and respect through age-appropriate engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives
- Provides opportunities for meaningful conversations about symbols, stories and cultural traditions
- Encourages creativity, sensory exploration and fine motor development through hands-on materials
- Incorporates sustainable and natural materials, reflecting a connection to Country and care for the environment



Village Early Education Bendigo use visual prompts and natural resources to explore connection to Country.



Phillip Island Early Learning Centre create multiple quiet /sensory spaces in both the indoor and outdoor care environments.

Why it stands out

- Enclosed spaces are reduced in light and sound to support regulation, providing a calm, soothing environment that supports children with sensory processing challenges
- It includes cushions, teddies, books, and visuals that create a safe haven where children can take breaks and recharge on busy days
- There are multiple sensory spaces in both the indoor and outdoor spaces
 - It supports all children's regulation



Goodstart Early Learning Kangaroo Flat provide a sensory area that meets visual, auditory and tactile sensory needs



Happy Turtle Childcare use visuals to support transitions and facilitate communication with children with receptive and expressive language delays.



Why it stands out

- Provides consistent visual cues to support understanding of routines and expectations
- Real-life images are more easily recognised and understood by children in CBDC services
- Reduces anxiety during transitions by clearly showing what is happening next
- Supports children with communication delays
 - Encourages independence
- Reinforces language development through pairing images with spoken words
- Enhances inclusivity by offering alternative ways to access and process information
 - Supports smooth group transitions



Phillip Island Early Learning Centre uses photographic visuals to display the daily routine.



Jenny's Early Learning Centre use a simple photographic visual board to support children in the babies/toddler rooms.



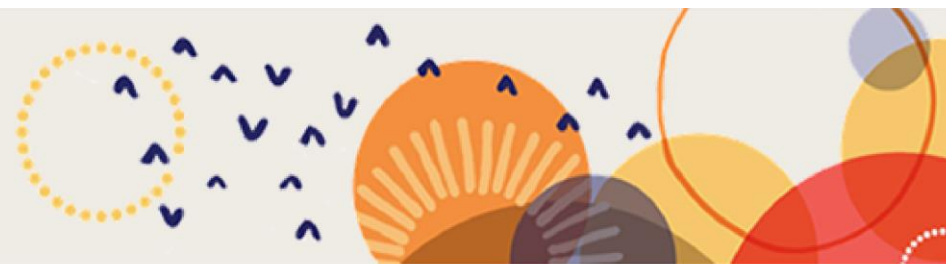
Why it stands out

- Responds to children's interests, making learning more engaging and meaningful
- Encourages peer interactions and collaboration through shared tabletop spaces
- Sectioned areas support focus and reduce overstimulation, supporting self-regulation
- Offers a wide range of open-ended materials, supporting imagination, storytelling and inquiry
- Invites children to explore connection between books, animals and real-world concepts
 - Instils a love of learning
- Use of tablecloths/mats on table tops helps reduce noise

Village Early Education Bendigo create inviting spaces to support children's engagement.

Mandalay Early Learning Centre creates engaging spaces based on children's interests.



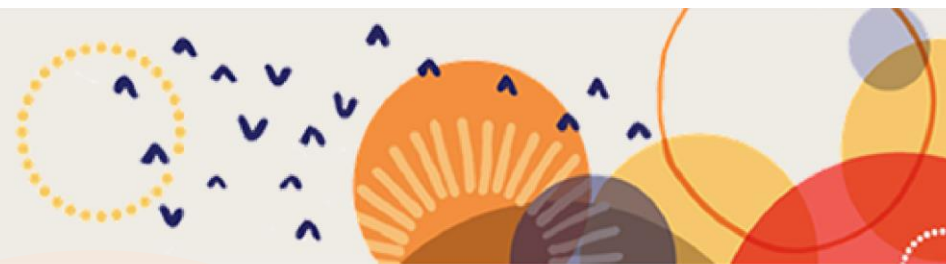


Shine Bright Maiden Gully Early Years Hub offer a range of wet and dry sensory play opportunities every day.



Why it stands out

- Offers a range of wet and dry sensory experiences supporting diverse sensory preferences and needs
- Incorporate children's interests in increase participation
- Encourages exploration, creativity, and experimentation through hands-on materials
- Supports self-regulation and calming through tactile play
- Builds fine motor skills and cognitive development in engaging, play-based ways
- Provides inclusive opportunities for all children to participate and express themselves
- Reflects intentional planning to enrich learning through sensory-rich environments



Goodstart Early Learning Woodend offer open-ended experiences using sustainable resources.

Why it stands out

- Promotes creativity and open-ended play as children explore the materials without fixed outcomes
 - It is well stocked, however supports sustainability by modelling recycling and repurposing
- Organised containers at children's height encourages independence
- Low-cost and inclusive, making rich play opportunities accessible to all
- Inspires problem solving, innovation, and critical thinking through unstructured exploration