

Play-based Learning



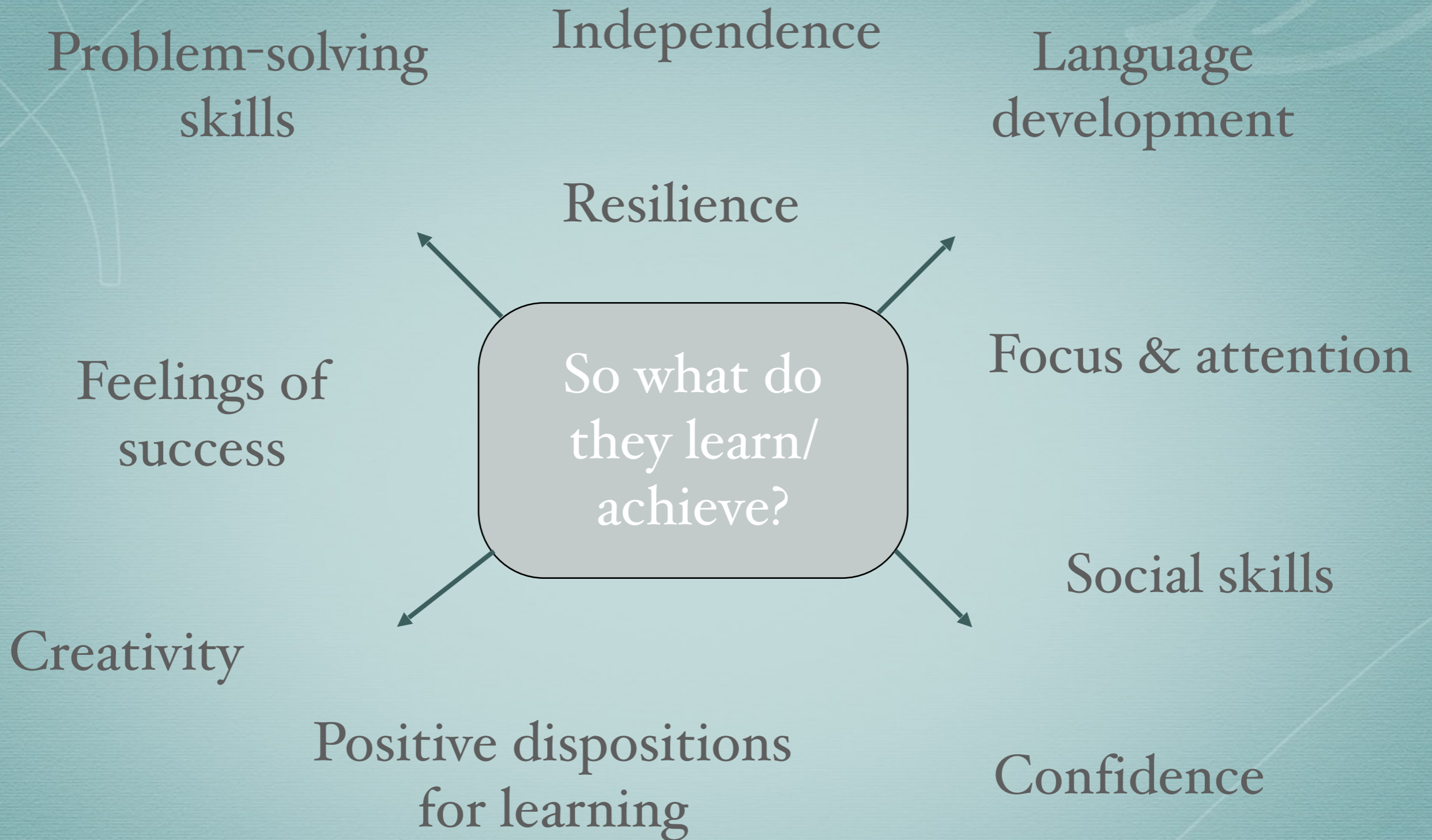
Just like a smile,
play is the innate, universal language for children.

Learning through play - EYLF

Play provides opportunities for children to learn as they *discover, create, improvise and imagine*. When children play with other children they create *social groups*, test out ideas, challenge each other's thinking and *build new understandings*. Play provides a supportive environment where children can ask questions, solve problems and engage in critical thinking. Play can expand children's thinking and *enhance their desire to know and to learn*. In these ways play can *promote positive dispositions towards learning*. Children's immersion in their play illustrates how play enables them to simply enjoy *being*.

Early childhood educators take on many roles in play with children and use a range of strategies

to support learning. They engage in sustained *shared conversations* with children to extend their thinking. They provide a balance between *child led, child initiated and educator supported* learning. They create *learning environments* that encourage children to explore, solve problems, create and construct. Educators interact with babies and children to build attachment. They use routines and play experiences to do this. They also recognise *spontaneous teachable moments* as they occur, and use them to build on children's learning. Early childhood educators work with young children to *promote and model positive ways to relate to others*. They actively support the *inclusion* of all children in play, help children to recognise when play is unfair and offer constructive ways to build a *caring, fair and inclusive learning community*.



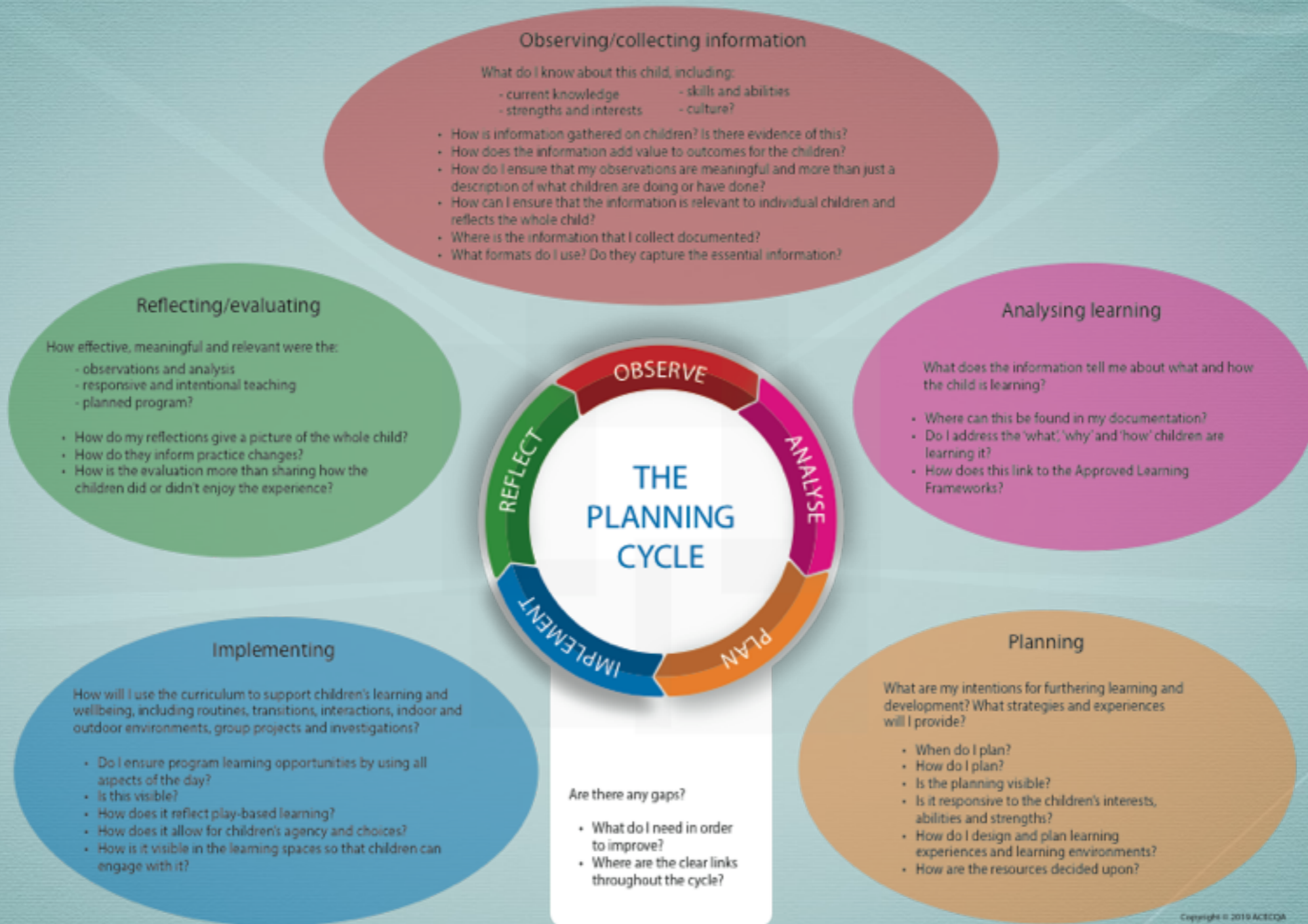
“...is more usefully conceived as a spectrum, with free play at one end and teacher-guided, playful learning at the other. In between are a variety of methods either entirely based on play, or incorporating elements of it.”

- Kate Noble, 2019.



- Based on the child's interest & strengths.
- Unhurried periods of time.
- Inviting, natural spaces & resources.

Intentional: deliberate, purposeful and thoughtful



When you are planning - think *holistic*;

- Physical development
- Social development
- Emotional development
- Spiritual development
- Cognitive aspects
- Connect with the nature



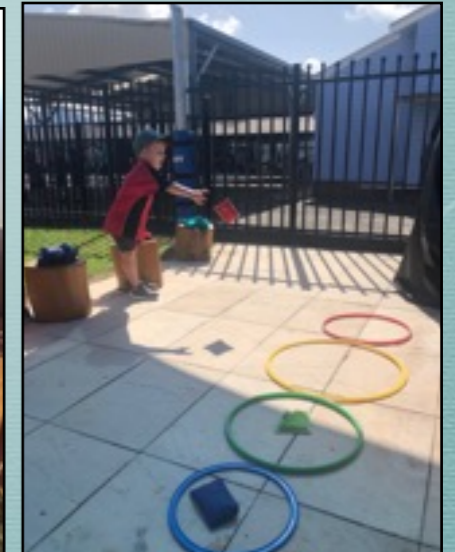
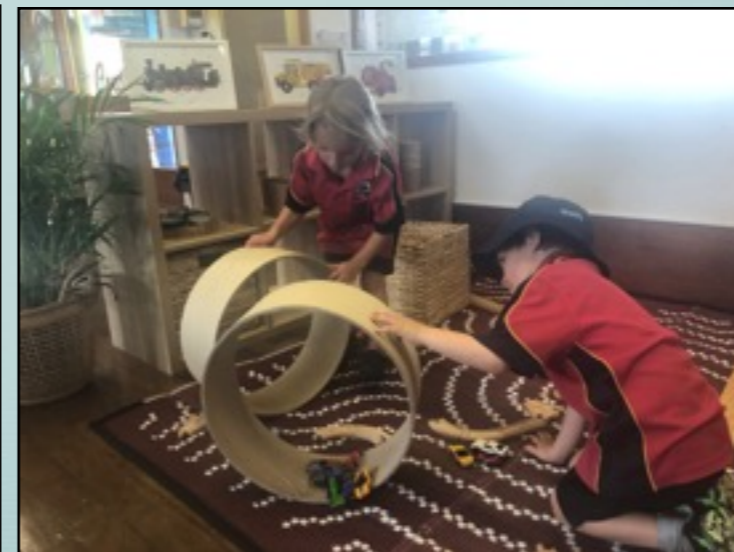
children's learning is integrated and interconnected.

Luv's Dinosaur Discovery Learning Journey

- Building positive partnership with family - relationships/community
- Small world play - social / language
- Puzzles - cognitive / fine motor
- Transitions - gross motor
- Walk the dinosaur - Music & Movement
- Vooks storybook - Literacy / ICT
- Sorting/ Counting /Measuring dinosaurs - Numeracy
- How did dinosaurs become extinct? - Science / hypothesis
- Dinosaur footprint - Creative arts
- Drawings dinosaur shadows - Science
- Comparing similarities and differences between dinosaurs / animals - numeracy
- Incursion / Excursion - community engagement

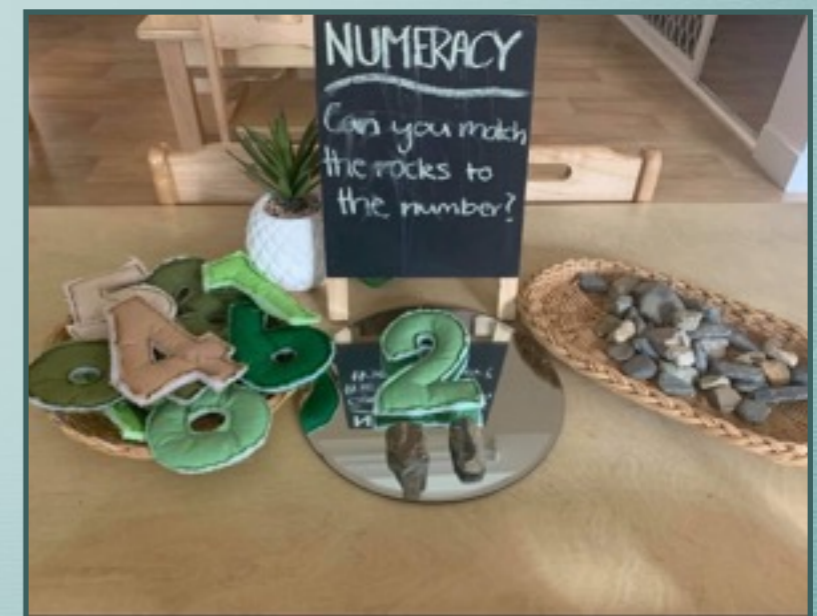


What about the academics?



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Play-based learning should be...

- Child-led
- Meaningful
- Unhurried
- Authentic
- Holistic
- Hands-on
- Incidental
- Strengths
- Interests
- Intentional
- Fun!

