



DISCOVERY
EARLY LEARNING CENTRES

in their nature

Commitment to Play

Discovery pays respect to the palawa and pakana people of lutruwita, whose children have been playing on and learning from this land for over 60,000 years.

Play provides opportunity for children to learn as they discover, create, improvise and imagine. Every child has a universal right to play; it is both essential and valuable.

Play is a powerful medium through which children learn and develop essential life skills. All children in every culture and setting play as a way of interacting with and learning about their world and understanding who they are in relation to others.

At Discovery we are committed to the Early Childhood Australia's Statement on Play and the six principles of play:

1. Play is essential and valuable in its own right and for children's learning and development; every child has a right to have play in their life.
2. Every child has a right to a balance of play experiences that develop a healthy mind and body and a sense of wellbeing.
3. Play builds each child's capacity for communication and develops language and thinking skills.
4. Through play, children develop a sense of self and the emotional and social competence to participate in relationships.
5. Play connects children to their world, their cultural identities, to others and to other ways of knowing, doing and being.
6. Children's right to play is a collective responsibility; all adults have a role in understanding, protecting and valuing the importance of play for every child, in every community.

Play is a platform for children to experiment, try out, and try again. It is a building block for lifelong learning, empowering children to become confident, curious learners, who are capable of problem solving and innovation.

Educators are play ambassadors who have an important role as enablers and champions for children's right to play. Educators engage families and communities in understanding the value and importance of play and put children's right to play first in the decisions they make. Educators will positively influence, promote and protect play in the life of every child.

Educators create opportunities to deepen and extend children's learning through 'being with' and using play as a time for wonder, possibilities, inquiry and imagination.