



Early Education Handbook



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What is ABC Kids listen?

[ABC Kids listen](#) is a digital audio broadcasting (DAB+) and on-demand app for children and their grown-ups, brought to you by the ABC.

We provide Australian families and early childhood educators with a safe, commercial free space for children aged 0-8 years to access entertaining and educational audio content via:

- **Daily Radio Programs**

Music-driven programs designed around the ebb and flow of a child's day to match waking up, play time, story time and bedtime routines.

- **Podcasts**

Audio experiences made to spark imaginations and foster active listening skills.

We host an extensive catalogue of audio programs including:

- music to move and dance to
- podcasts to stimulate curiosity, creativity and learning
- stories and soundtracks for mindfulness, rest and sleep.



ABC Kids listen audio programs are designed to get little listeners moving, thinking and talking!

How do I access ABC Kids listen ?

Use the ABC Kids listen app

To select podcasts and music on-demand, or listen to the 24/7 live radio stream, download the free user-friendly ABC Kids listen app from the [App Store](#) or on [Google Play](#).



Here you'll find age-appropriate programs within five categories

1. *Play*
2. *Move*
3. *Discover*
4. *Relax*
5. *Rest*



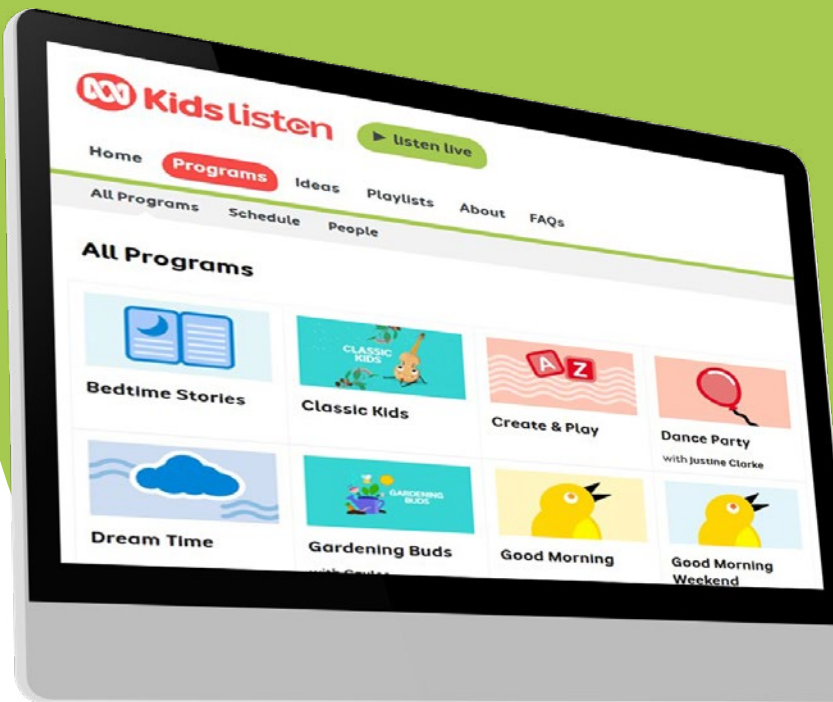


Tune into ABC Kids listen 24-hour live stream via digital radio or TV

ABC Kids listen is a [digital radio station](#) (DAB+ receiver). Simply scan through the stations on your digital radio menu to find us.

Our live radio broadcast can be found on Google Home, Amazon Echo and Apple HomePod by asking the smart speaker to “*play ABC Kids listen radio*”.

You can also listen via [digital TV](#) on channel 202.



Visit the ABC Kids listen website

Time to add ABC Kids listen to your list of favourites!

It features:

- Descriptions and icons for All Programs to inform your content choices.
- Helpful episodic summaries.
- A Playlists search tool to help you find exactly what you want to hear.
- Teaching ideas and news articles to support planning and practice.
- A daily schedule to help educators plan listening experiences in advance.



Want to learn more about how to listen? Visit our [FAQs](#) for more information.

Audio resources in early education

Play and learning

The team at ABC Kids listen are committed to supporting children's early learning, physical movement, imagination and creativity. Our resources encourage play, scaffold positive daily transitions and support children to build new understandings about themselves and our world. Quality media options without accompanying visual stimulation are a worthy part of a balanced 'digital diet'!



Listening to educational podcasts develops 'efferent' listening skills - listening for information and ideas.



National Quality Framework links

Each ABC Kids listen production is informed by [Early Years Learning Framework of Australia](#) (EYLF), in collaboration with subject matter specialists and early childhood education experts. Our programs respond to children's interests and curriculum priorities while embedding many of the unique sounds and perspectives of culturally and linguistically diverse Australia.



Listening to podcasts together with young children by using different digital devices – interactive whiteboard, tablet, laptop or phone – enables educators to be creative in their use of equipment & materials to stimulate children's curiosity and enhance learning through play (NQS Element 3.2.2).



Digital literacy skills

The [Early Childhood Australia \(ECA\) Statement on young children and digital technologies](#) advocates for the value in joint media engagement for learning where children, peers and/or adults co-listen to digital content. Using the ABC Kids listen app supports digital literacy skills and a sense of agency as children make independent listening choices.

Screen-free extension Ideas

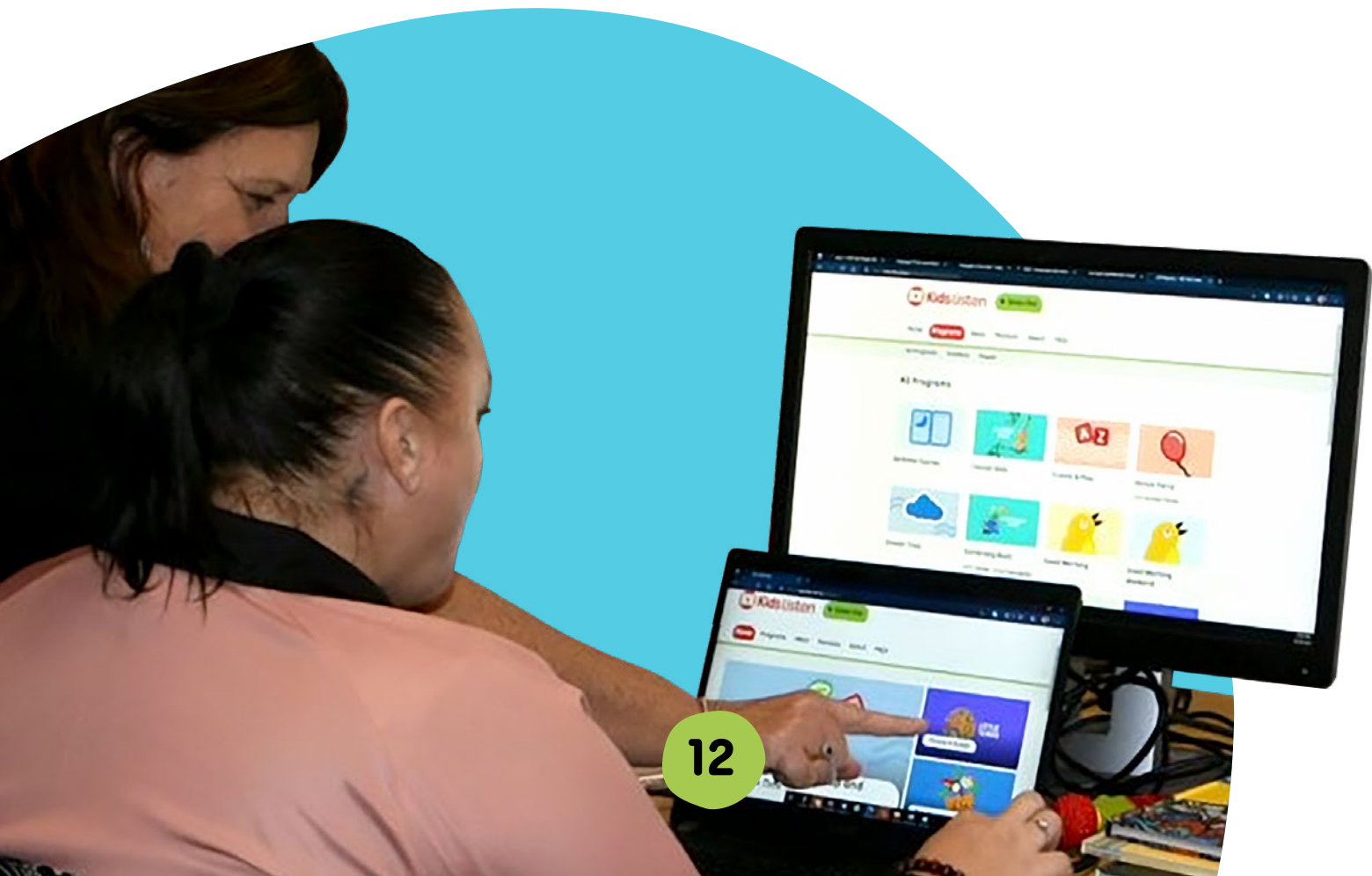
With topics ranging from child friendly news stories to exploring the weird and wonderful sounds of Australian nature, ABC Kids listen prompts children to wonder about the world, ask questions and share ideas. Listening to great quality audio can foster a love of language - promoting rich discussion and collaborative learning across the early childhood curriculum. Check out our [Practice Notes](#) (pp.58-63) for play-based, follow-up teaching and learning ideas.

Find out more and keep up to date

- ACECQA article - [Podcasts as a gateway for new understandings](#)
- [ABC Kids listen: Ideas and news articles](#)
- [Educator Notes](#) for planning and practice

Explore our program categories

Whether it's peaceful music for early morning arrivals, or thought provoking podcasts for curious minds, our program categories make it easy to find what you need.





PLAY



MOVE



DISCOVER



RELAX



REST

PLAY

**This fun-filled collection
inspires laughter,
discovery, improvisation,
imagination and learning
through play!**



Story Salad



Good Morning



Create & Play



Home Time



Story Salad



5 minute podcast (ages 3+)

Story Salad is a fun and wacky improve storytelling show. Join Matt from Play School and one of his super storyteller friends as they are given three words to make up a story, on the spot!

Early years curriculum links

- Listening to and talking about these improvised oral stories can help build understandings about language and story structure ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.2](#), p.44).
- After listening, children can make up their own Story Salad as a way to communicate their thoughts and feelings and spark imagination, curiosity and creativity ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5](#), p41).
- For more follow-up teaching and learning ideas, check out the Story Salad: Practice Notes (pp.58-59).





Create & Play

 Listen now

2 hour radio program (ages 2+)

Create & Play features a selection upbeat music designed to encourage play and inspire creativity while building interest in letters and sounds.

Early years curriculum links

- Scaffold effective communication by encouraging children to respond with relevant gestures, actions, comments and questions about letter-sound relationships while co-listening ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.2](#), p.44).
- Invite children to express ideas and make meaning through the creative arts as they draw, paint, sculpt and collage while listening ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.3](#), p45).





Good Morning

 Listen Now

2 hour radio program (ages 2+)

Kiruna guides listeners from sleep to play and gets your day underway. The carefully chosen music on Good Morning is for early risers and features familiar songs from Play School, Giggle & Hoot and The Wiggles to start the day.

Early years curriculum links

- This selection of songs can support routines in early learning settings as children settle into their day. Positive daily transitions help reduce stress and support children's sense of belonging ([NQS Element 1.1.3](#)).





Home Time



2 hour radio program (ages 2+)

Whether it's tidying up, having dinner, or getting ready for bed, Matt is here to help with family Home Time routines. Upbeat music from Play School, Sesame Street and The Wiggles can also help with end of day routines in early childhood settings.

Early years curriculum links

- Featured music can help children to feel safe, secure and supported by assisting educators to create effective routines that ensure smooth transitions ([EYLF Learning Outcome 1.1](#), p.24).

MOVE

Programs with fun, energetic music to get little bodies up and moving! Songs in this collection motivate physical activity and invite fundamental skill-building opportunities.



Kangaroo Beach Party



Shake and Move



Sing Along



Let's Pretend



Dance Party



Play School Party Countdown



Kangaroo Beach Party



1 hour radio program (ages 3+)

Join the Kangaroo Beach crew as they broadcast from the Club House bringing summer fun, water safety messages and great music!

Early years curriculum links

- Messages shared in Kangaroo Beach Party support children to feel safe and secure, and build knowledge about dynamic beach and water environments ([EYLF Learning Outcomes 1.1 and 3.2](#), pp.24, 35).
- For more ideas on ways to embed sun and water safety messages in early education programs, check out the [ABC Kids Early Education article: Finish summer safely with the help of Kangaroo Beach](#).



After listening, small world play with sand and beach accessories is a great way to extend children's understandings about water and surf safety.



Sing Along

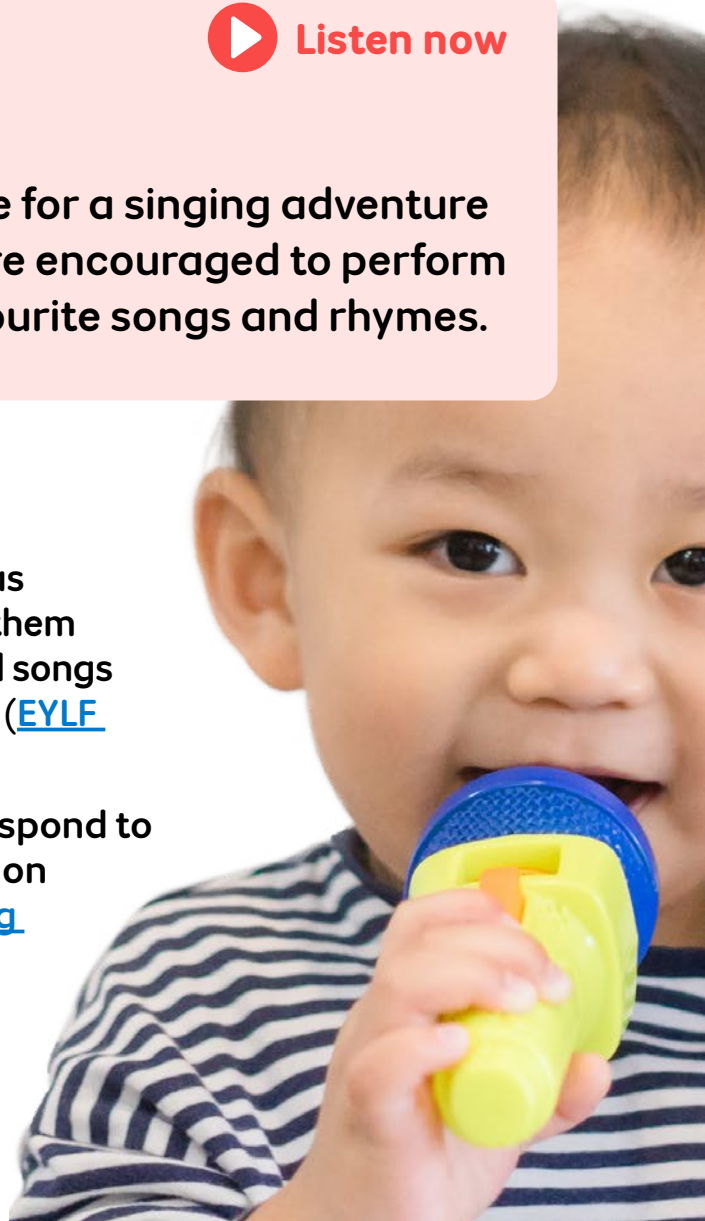
 Listen now

2 hour radio program (ages 2+)

Get those big voices ready, it's time for a singing adventure with Abi on Sing Along! Children are encouraged to perform actions while singing along to favourite songs and rhymes.

Early years curriculum links

- Support children's developing skills as effective communicators by inviting them to sing and chant rhymes, jingles and songs through play with words and sounds ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.2](#), p.44).
- Encourage children to listen and respond to the sounds and patterns in rhymes on the [Sing Along](#) series ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.2](#), p.44).







Dance Party



1 hour radio program (ages 2+)

Put on your party hat! You're invited to a Dance Party with Justine Clarke on ABC Kids listen.

Early years curriculum links

- Help children express ideas and make meaning through listening and moving to the fun, upbeat music on Dance Party. Encourage children to respond creatively to the music and experiment through this media form ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.3](#), p.45).





Shake and Move



1 hour radio program (ages 3+)

Wiggle and jiggle, twist and shout! Fun, energetic music for dancing and free play on Shake and Move.

Early years curriculum links

- Each episode provides scaffolded opportunities for children to combine gross and fine motor movement and balance, to achieve increasingly complex patterns of physical activity through dance & creative movement ([EYLF Learning Outcome 3.2](#), p.35).





Let's Pretend



1 hour radio program (ages 3+)

With your imagination you can go anywhere, be anyone and do anything! With stories and songs guiding the way, every day is a brand new adventure on Let's Pretend. Themed music playlists are woven together by story-driven links to inspire creative and imaginative play.

Early years curriculum links

- Let's Pretend can help children express ideas and make meaning by engaging in play to move, imagine and create roles, scripts & ideas ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.3](#), p.45).
- Include this audio program in children's pretend play scenarios to support the development of effective communication skills through digital play ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.5](#), p.47).





Play School Party Countdown



1 hour radio program (ages 2+)

Your favourite songs from 55 years of Play School. Join us for party games, dancing, sing-alongs and a countdown of Australia's favourite tracks.

Early years curriculum links

- Performing actions while singing familiar nursery rhymes, builds effective communication skills through enjoyment of language and movement ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.2](#), p.44).



DISCOVER

DISCOVER

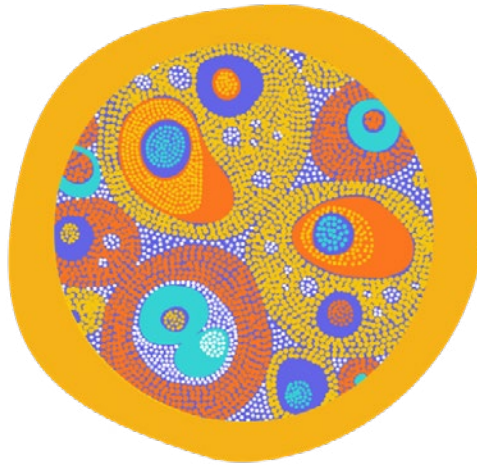
This catalogue of educational podcasts engages children in discovery and learning, fostering deeper understandings of the world around them.



Imagine This



Noisy by Nature



Little Yarns



Gardening Buds



News Time



Imagine This



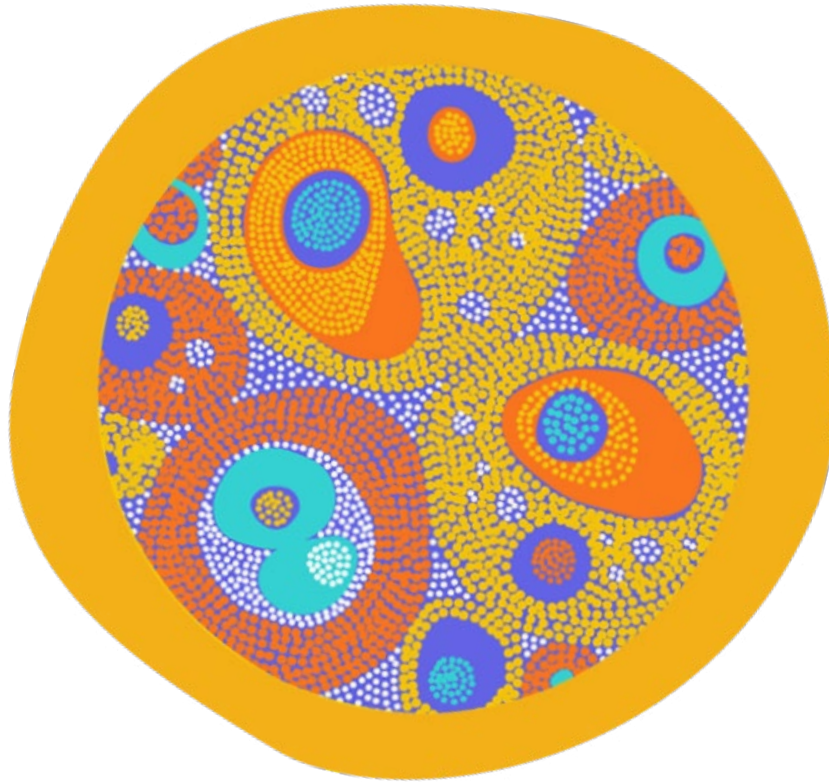
7-12 minute podcast (ages 4+)

Imagine This explores a series of puzzling science questions from inquisitive young minds. Host, Dr Niraj Lal, chats to kids and Australia's leading academics, taking listeners on imaginative adventures to learn about the world around us.

Early years curriculum links

- Imagine This encourages children to express wonder and interest in their environments, supporting the development of important dispositions for learning ([EYLF Learning Outcome 4.1](#), p.37).
- Use these topical episodes as a springboard to extend children's understandings through play using skills and processes such as inquiry, researching and investigating ([EYLF Learning Outcome 4.2](#), p.38).
- For more follow-up teaching and learning ideas, download the free Early Childhood Australia (ECA) Professional Learning Module [Exploring science content knowledge with ABC Kids listen podcast: Imagine This](#) and check out the *Imagine This: Practice Notes* (pp.60-61).





Little Yarns



6-9 minute podcast (ages 3+)

Little Yarns is a co-listening podcast for preschoolers that explores diverse languages, stories and countries of Indigenous Australia. Each episode will take you on a journey to a different nation to learn a first word on Country.

Early years curriculum links

- Broaden children's perspectives and encourage an appreciation of diversity by co-listening to these oral stories about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures ([EYLF Principle 4](#), p.14).
- For more follow-up teaching and learning ideas, download the ABC Kids Early Education [Educator Notes: Little Yarns](#) and short videos teaching children how to speak single words in [Batjmalh](#), [Palawa Kani](#) and [Yawaru](#) languages.





News Time



10-12 minute podcast (ages 4+)

News Time shares interesting stories happening at home and abroad each week and is made especially for young children to help them understand and connect with the world around them. The series features stories about children, animals, special events, the natural world and outer space!

Early years curriculum links

- News Time podcasts use enticing language to engage children's interest in listening to informational multimodal text, supporting essential language and literacy skills.
- Use these news bulletins to help build follow-up meaningful connections between the early childhood setting and local community ([EYLF Learning Outcome 2](#), p.28).



After listening to the News Time: Flying cars and snot palaces episode, scaffold creativity and engineering skills by providing craft materials for children to construct their very own flying machine.



Noisy by Nature



6-10 minute podcast (ages 3+)

Discover the weird and wonderful sounds that nature makes on Noisy by Nature! Children will learn fun facts about animals, helping to train little ears to listen to the chorus of calls that make up the natural world around us.

Early years curriculum links

- Guided conversations about insects, animals and their natural habitats featured in Noisy by Nature provide opportunities for educators to support children in growing an appreciation and respect for the environment ([EYLF Learning Outcome 2.4](#), p.32).
- The [Noisy by Nature: Curriculum Planning Handbook](#) offers practical follow-up ideas to extend children's understandings about flora, fauna and biodiversity.





Gardening Buds



9-10 minute podcast (ages 4+)

Learn all about gardening with the ABC's Gardening Australia expert, Costa, and budding green thumb Caylee. Whether you've got a big backyard, a balcony or a little pot on a windowsill, the Gardening Buds series will inspire everyone to get growing!

Early years curriculum links

- Co-listening to this podcast series opens up a world of opportunities for follow-up fun, learning and play in the great outdoors. Download the [Gardening Buds: Early Education Guide](#) for practical ideas and helpful curriculum links.
- This series provides the ideal springboard to help children develop an appreciation of the natural world, an awareness of the impact of human activity on the environment, and ways in which they contribute to a sustainable future ([NQS Element 3.2.1](#)).



RELAX

Mindfulness and relaxation experiences have become an important inclusion in many early education programs.

This collection of podcasts can help kids wind down and relax by listening to stories, guided relaxations and classical music.



Story Time



Bedtime Stories



Soundwalks



Classic Kids



Nature Track



Story Time



30 minute radio program (ages 3+)

Story Time features a handpicked selection of stories for preschoolers to inspire their imaginations and curiosity. Each episode includes stories from around the world, written by much-loved children's authors.

Early years curriculum links

- Listening to spoken language can help children explore multimedia narrative text and develop key literacy and numeracy concepts ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.2](#), p.44).
- After listening, extend learning by inviting children to re-tell the stories and engage in discussions about the ways these narratives are constructed.





Bedtime Stories



30 minute radio program (ages 3+)

Soothing stories for winding down and getting ready for bed are included on the Bedtime Stories series, helping young children prepare for a daytime rest or good night's sleep.

Early years curriculum links

- These carefully selected stories are a useful resource in early learning settings to help ensure each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for in relation to sleep, rest and relaxation ([NQS Element 2.1.1](#)).





Soundwalks



6-8 minute podcast (ages 3+)

Soundwalks paints rich, audio landscapes for children to explore, with different guided relaxations. From working through big feelings and letting go of stress, to finding joy or getting ready for the day, Soundwalks uses the soothing sounds of Australian nature to help kids connect with the present, and themselves.

Early years curriculum links

- Co-listening to Soundwalks can help children become strong in their emotional wellbeing by providing opportunities to enjoy moments of solitude and mindfulness, and develop understandings about emotional regulation ([EYLF Learning Outcome 3](#), p.33).
- After listening, plan other play-based art & craft experiences to build mindfulness and emotional coping tools in children, by providing opportunities to express their ideas and feelings using different media ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.3](#), p.45) e.g. finger knitting, weaving, bracelet making, paper mache or drawing.





Classic Kids



6-10 minute podcast (ages 3+)

Treat little ears to musical soundscapes and classical compositions with Classic Kids. Produced in collaboration with [Sydney Opera House Children, Families and Creative Learning Program](#), these podcasts feature Australian-made music to help children learn about different instrument sounds, musical concepts and vocabulary.

Early years curriculum links

- Encourage children to listen and respond to the sounds and patterns featured in the music. Use percussion instruments to follow patterns of music including beat, rhythm and tempo ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5](#), p.41).
- This series features Dreaming Stories and is the perfect springboard to explore Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing and being ([EYLF Principle 4](#), p.14).
- For more follow-up teaching and learning ideas, check out the *Classic Kids: Practice Notes* (pp.62-63)..





Nature Track



1-2.5 hour podcast (ages birth+)

Nature Track opens a window on the beautiful sounds of the Australian wilderness. These long, uninterrupted soundscapes are the perfect relaxing soundtrack for play, meditation or sleep.

Early years curriculum links

- Help develop children's purposeful listening skills by tuning in and noticing different sounds made by the weather, wildlife and waterways across Australia.
- Invite children to express ideas and make meaning by re-creating the sounds they hear using percussion instruments ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.3](#), p.45).



REST

**A collection of carefully
composed music programs
to help little ones feel calm,
relaxed and sleep.**



Quiet Time



Dream Time



Lullabies



Sleep Through



Quiet Time

 Listen now

2 hour radio program (ages birth+)

Quiet Time features tranquil classical music to help relax little ones during the daily rest time routine.

Early years curriculum links

- Play during quiet times in early learning settings to create a balanced routine throughout the day, providing space for young children to engage in rest and quiet experiences ([NQS Element 1.1.3](#)).





Lullabies

 Listen now

1.5 hour radio program (ages birth+)

Relaxing, classic lullabies to help soothe children to sleep.

Early years curriculum links

- Intentionally including different styles of music in the educational program can help facilitate learning about language, as children enjoy the sounds and patterns in these beautifully calming songs and lullabies ([EYLF Learning Outcome 5.2](#), p.44).





Dream Time



3 hour radio program (ages birth+)

Dream Time plays gentle, soothing melodies to help children sleep peacefully.

Early years curriculum links

- Dream Time is the perfect soundtrack to help babies drift off to sleep both at home and in early childhood settings. The relaxing, dreamy music will help ensure children's comfort and wellbeing during sleep routines ([NQS Element 2.1.1](#)).





Sleep Through

 Listen now

1 hour podcast (ages birth+)

The ambient music on Sleep Through connects children to peaceful sounds in nature for a restorative sleep. Developed by Sonic Arts School of Music at the University of NSW, these soundtracks have been carefully composed to help children feel safe and secure by using repetitive rhythms with gentle variation.

Early years curriculum links

- Choose from the wide selection of music to create calming, predictable and nurturing sleep routines for young children ([EYLF Learning Outcome 1.1](#), p.24). Listen to slow waves gently wash over warm sand at the beach or soft wind moving through a calm valley.



Stars

Up in the night sky, sparkling stars share their light as they journey onward through space.

Sat 11 Apr 2020

Sleep Through



Valley

A soft wind moves through the calm valley, bringing the promise of a peaceful and uplifting night's sleep.

Sat 11 Apr 2020

Sleep Through



Garden

At night time the garden is alive with magic. Fall with the dewdrops into this wonderful place of dreams.

Sat 11 Apr 2020

Sleep Through



Rockpool

As the sounds of the day disappear into the distance, rest alongside the soft sounds of water and stone.

Sat 11 Apr 2020

Sleep Through



Creek

The moon cascades through dappled green leaves, and frogs croak contentedly, as the nourishing stream winds its way through the forest.

Sat 11 Apr 2020

Sleep Through

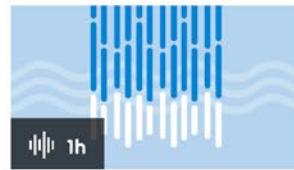


Beach

Slow waves gently wash over the warm sand. The last rays of yellow sun sparkle over the sea, as the day drifts towards night.

Sat 11 Apr 2020

Sleep Through



Waterfall

Moonlight glistens over a waterfall, as it cascades dreamily through the night.

Thu 21 Feb 2019

Sleep Through



River

Day calmly settles into evening, accompanied by the gentle flow of the stream.

Thu 21 Feb 2019

Sleep Through



Rice Fields

Around the waterways of the rice fields, frogs and crickets softly greet the restful night.

Thu 21 Feb 2019

Sleep Through



Pond

Starlight shimmers and sparkles in the stillness of the cool water.

Thu 21 Feb 2019

Sleep Through



Canopy

Rain falls gently through the soft green leaves of the forest, nourishing and peaceful.

Thu 21 Feb 2019

Sleep Through



Bushland

A busy day comes to a close, and a chorus of cicadas and crickets fills the evening.

Thu 21 Feb 2019

Sleep Through



Ocean

Let the soft lapping of waves wash away the day, while the stars above sing of the possibilities of tomorrow.

Thu 1 Feb 2018

Sleep Through

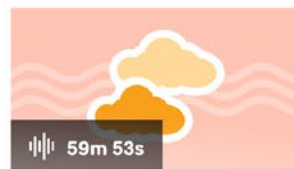


Forest

In the cool of the dream-like forest, frogs and crickets sing together in soft chorus as stars peek through the tree-tops.

Thu 1 Feb 2018

Sleep Through

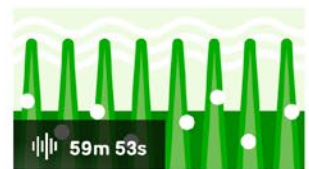


Sky

The chatter of birds brings the day to a close. As we drift off to sleep, our thoughts and dreams soar into the sky.

Thu 1 Feb 2018

Sleep Through



Field

Gentle chords drift over the sound of night-time crickets. A peaceful field is the perfect place to dream.

Thu 1 Feb 2018

Sleep Through



Story Salad: Practice Notes

[Story Salad](#) podcasts are useful provocations for children to make-up their own oral stories. The *House, Banana, Bed* episode shares a wacky story about a young girl named Bonita who lives in a banana house!

Here are some ways to dive deeper into different storytelling techniques with preschoolers after listening to the episode:

- **Create a pictorial Story Map**

Use props to represent items from Story Salad and guide children to develop a pictorial [Story Map](#) narrative script, by asking them to firstly think about the main components of a story – the characters and setting. Model language to start the story and help children develop a story structure e.g. “Once upon a time there was a banana...”. Use questioning to develop a beginning, middle and end to their story ideas. Invite children to draw the story sequence and scribe their narrative script to develop understandings of key literacy concepts about print.

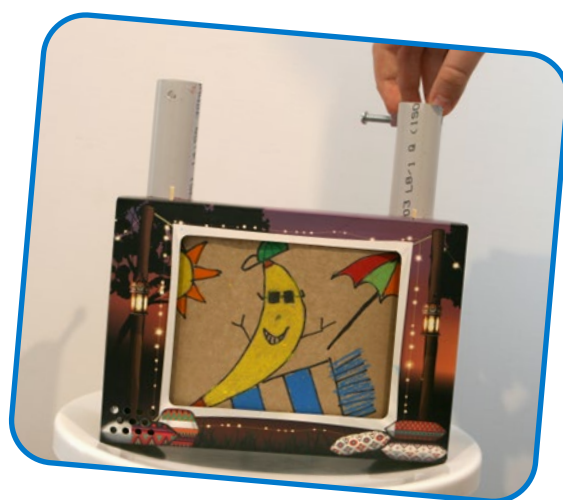
- **Put on a puppet show**

Puppetry can help children investigate, imagine and explore their creativity. Provide recycled and other craft materials for children to make their own storytelling puppets. Children can also draw *Story Salad* characters on paper, laminate and attached to wooden spoons or large pop sticks. Children can use their DIY puppets to re-tell or make up a new story and perform a show!



- **Make a Crankie Theatre**

Use a recycled cereal box, pipes (or paper towel rolls), rubber bands, masking tape, steel nuts and a long strip of brown paper to make a [Crankie Theatre](#). This old storytelling art form gives children the opportunity to move an illustrated scroll, bringing stories to life! The pipes (or spools) are loaded into the box with a viewing window. The scroll is then hand-cranked while children tell a story, sing a song or play music in the background. To create the 'scroll', children can draw characters or paste magazine pictures onto paper, matching the sequence of their story.



Early years curriculum links

- [EYLF Learning Outcome 5.1](#) (p.43) – Develop communication skills by modelling language and encouraging children to express themselves both verbally and non-verbally through storytelling.
- [EYLF Learning Outcome 5.3](#) (p.45) – Repeated and varied tellings of the same story helps build understandings about vocabulary and story structure. Help children feel a *sense of belonging* by valuing children's language, interaction styles and ways of communicating through oral storytelling.



Imagine This: **Practice Notes**

The [Imagine This](#) series can ignite children's curiosity and inspire further questions to help them make sense of the world and their place in it. The [Why did the dinosaurs die?](#) episode features a palaeontologist sharing fascinating facts about dinosaurs.

Here are some ways to spark further investigation about the history of dinosaurs and environmental issues in age-appropriate ways:

- **Create an outer space sensory tray**

Use playdough planets, grey/white rocks (asteroids), volcano models, plants, dinosaur/animal figurines and toy skeletons/bones to create the play area together. Promote deeper conversations about how dinosaurs became extinct. Discuss the important job of palaeontologists, helping us to learn more about dinosaurs by studying fossils.



- **Small world imaginative play**

Construct a small world imaginative play space to develop scientific, creative and language skills. Provide materials including – bones, dinosaur models, blocks, rocks, hessian, large leaves, small logs and pinecones. Engage in conversations about nature, different landscapes and the importance of a sustainable environment by exploring dinosaur habitats and what they needed to survive. Research online together about where dinosaurs lived & the natural materials that were in the environment.

- **Construct a 3D Dinosaur model**

Provide open-ended recycled and craft materials (paper towel rolls, sultana boxes, straws, pipe cleaners, pop sticks, masking tape, feathers, paint) for children to build a dinosaur model. Promote children’s creativity and engineering skills as they construct these ancient creatures. Refer to factual picture books about dinosaurs and identify features to help inform their designs.



Early years curriculum links

- [EYLF Learning Outcomes 2.4 and 5.3](#) (pp.32.45) – These creative arts experiences provide a range of media for children to learn about the interdependence between land, plants and animals in the natural environment.
- [EYLF Learning Outcome 5.5](#) (p.47) – Co-listening to Imagine This helps educators facilitate deeper discovery and learning through technology, supporting young children to “*access information, investigate ideas and represent their thinking*”.



Classic Kids: Practice Notes

The *Classic Kids* [Music for The Dreaming: Galaa](#) episode introduces preschoolers to Aboriginal culture and Dhurga language through classical music, story, movement and song. *Fishing for tucker* is a focus of this particular story, as an important part of summer for the Yuin People.

Here are some ways educators can use this podcast as a springboard to explore musical concepts, seasons, insects and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing and *being*.

- **Sing about summer**

Introduce children to the Dhurga language and ways of the Yuin People by singing the 'Galaa Song' featured in this episode. Encourage children to listen and respond to the sounds and patterns in this cheerful, engaging music by keeping the beat using body percussion e.g. clapping hands or tapping knees.

- **Make and play percussion instruments**

This podcast features the sounds of the clarinet and bongo drum instruments. Invite children to make and decorate their own set of drums using an empty tin (no sharp edges), balloon, rubber bands, paint, coloured foam shapes, piping and scrap material. Children can keep the beat while listening to the music on Classic Kids. Extend understandings about other musical concepts such as dynamics, tempo, timbre and rhythm while playing.



- **Investigate Cicada sounds and habitats**

Help children identify a cicada's loud calling sound in this episode. Look at factual picture books to discover why cicadas make these sounds and why they emerge from underground during warm weather in late spring/ early summer. Talk about different seasons and how cicadas live underground during the cooler months. Build a home for a cicada by re-creating their underground tunnels using clay and modelling tools.



Early years curriculum links

- [EYLF Learning Outcome 1 \(p.23\)](#): Educators can support children in developing a strong sense of identity by providing examples of the many ways identities and culture are recognised and expressed. *Classic Kids* podcasts can help build upon culturally valued approaches to learning.
- [EYLF Learning Outcome 5 \(p.41\)](#): Listening and responding to sounds and patterns in music and rhyme can help children develop effective communication skills, as they engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts.