

Ideas for parents and carers

In this episode of Play School Story Time, Grant and Scout Denyer share 'Tomorrow is a Brand-New Day' by Davina Bell & Allison Colpoys.

This story centres around two sisters as they navigate feelings like anger, frustration and disappointment. They learn that difficult feelings pass and how to make amends.



STEM learning Design thinking and cardinal directions.

This PlayWorld

supports: Connection to the natural world by exploring ocean ecosystems. It also helps children learn how to recognise and manage emotions, and solve problems.



STEP 1: View/read and reflect

As you read, help your child notice how the characters look when they experience certain emotions.

At the end of the story, wonder together about how the girls in the story will use all of their different equipment.



STEP 3:

Go on your adventure

• Put on helmets and pretend to be boat designers. Make a boat to explore stormy seas. How will you make it strong if there is a storm?

• Change your hats and become sailors. Who will be captain? Notice

the animals, the colour of the water, the smell of the ocean as you sail across the seas.

- How will you find your way? Use a compass and notice the direction of the sunrise and sunset.
- The boat's leaking! How will you fix it? Then you spy a storm to the east. How will you prepare?
- On your journey talk about your feelings and name them. Do your feelings change, as you solve problems?

STEP 4: Encounter a problem

As the storm arrives, you find the bottle and read out the message. How will you find the girls? How do you know which way you are being blown? Does the compass help?



Notice the wind is blowing you west, towards the sunset. *How will you find the girls*?

Images: Tim Herbert, with thanks to Paul, Eva and Georgia Sabo. 'Tomorrow is a Brand New Day' Written by Davina Bell and illustrated by Allison Colpoys is Published by Scribe Publications, 2021. Images provided by the Monash Conceptual PlayLab.

STEP 2: Plan your play

Prepare these items:

- A pretend ocean using a tub of water with toy sea animals.
- A pretend island with two dolls, representing the girls in the book.
- A large box or furniture to make a pretend boat.
- Props a flag, telescope, compass, helmets and sailor's hats.
- A message in a bottle:

We were feeling angry and took a boat from the marina. We didn't ask permission and didn't check the weather. What a big mistake! A big wind came and blew us in the direction of the sunset. Our island has pink sand. Can you rescue us?

From the girls in the book

STEP 5: Learn through play

Activate your plan. Encounter more problems to solve. Spy different islands in your telescope. *What colour is the sand?*

Find an island with huge pink cliffs. *Do you think that might make pink sand*?



Investigate! *How do you get to shore?* Discover the girls and talk about how you are feeling now. Then journey home, using your compass to sail east.



Why this learning matters

This PlayWorld helps children learn more about ocean ecosystems, navigation and geology. It also helps children recognise and name emotions and persist with problem-solving.

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