



Loose Parts Play 2018

Next term we are introducing **Loose Parts Play** into the ECE playground. Staff will be encouraging children to use their imagination and play with resources including cardboard boxes, large pieces of material, PVC Pipes, wooden planks, kitchen utensils and plastic spoons. These are called 'loose parts'.

Loose parts play will happen within class time and during play time; it will be a chance for children to:

- Play freely with friends
- Investigate
- Discover
- Explore
- Create
- Use lots of trial and error to learn for themselves
- Learn to make their own judgments about adventurous play and recognising safe limits.

Do you have resources to donate?

We will need a supply of loose parts to get started. Initially we are looking for:

- Large pieces of fabric
- Dressing-up stuff like hats, scarves, dresses (the brighter and more interesting the better)
- Old household items like pots and pans, wooden spoons, mixing bowls, buckets, clean PVC pipes, cable reels etc.
- Large wooden or plastic trays; and
- Sturdy storage containers suitable for children to move independently e.g. milk crates, plastic tubs with lids, wicker baskets



Please make sure that items are clean and do not donate anything that is likely to cause injury such as items with sharp edges.

Resources can be delivered to the Loose Parts Storage Shed (below the Prep Deck area) before school on Mon, Tues or Wed, 8.30 – 8.45am, during the first 4 weeks of Term 2.

Require more information?

Please contact Emma Nuttall emma.nuttall@education.tas.gov.au or ph: 6227 8325



Loose Parts

Loose parts are the opposite of toys. Toys are designed with specific purposes; loose parts are not.

The concept of “loose parts” is understood by children worldwide; any child noticing odds and ends lying about will instinctively pick them up and put them to use. This is because children have active hands and active minds with a gift for seeing possibilities that adults miss.

In open-ended play children themselves decide what to do, how to do it, and what to use. For children who immerse in it, open-ended play evolves in amazing ways. Initially it consists of fluid experimentation. Over time it becomes increasingly purposeful as children start to plan what to act out or invent.

Loose parts can be small as corks or large as drain pipes – healthy imagination finds uses for them all!

Community Playthings 2014