

Translating play into learning for families

One of the biggest issues services have is families who want to see their child is learning and preparing for school, so expect lots of structured experiences and lessons. Instead of doing this to appease families think about how you translate what the families see into what they can understand.

What the family sees



Play
Fun
Enjoyment
Craft
Mess
Busy work
Cuteness
Recreation



What the educator sees



Creativity
Fine motor
Representation
Science
Language/vocabulary
Problem solving
Numeracy
Core control

Speaking the same language

Documentation and conversations with families is how we can translate the play into learning for them. To achieve this you need to avoid hiding the learning behind codes and numbers. Instead take the time to use learning words in your interactions with families. Highlight the learning in your documentation and displays through explaining the importance of play based learning for young children.

Remember... it is not the family's job to learn the EYLF, it is our job as educators to break down the jargon and explain the learning in clear and easy to understand ways.