

HIPPY Rockingham



Message from the Coordinator

**HIPPY Rockingham
Newsletter**
Volume 1, Issue 2
August 2010

Spring has sprung! Daffodils, snowdrops and tulips are displaying warm colours at the florists and in some gardens.

I attended my daughter's wedding in Broome last month and enjoyed the feeling of the sunshine, warm sand under my feet, seeing happy people and hearing laughter. The positive effect this environment had on my outlook started me thinking about HIPPY Family Group Meetings.

During winter we seem to hibernate, retreat and stay at home; attending HIPPY Family Group Meetings may not seem important but they do have benefits.

Meetings provide a safe, comfortable place for parents to interact and build new friend-

ships. Parents can develop new skills and consider new ideas passed on by other parents. The discussion topics and guest speakers provide information on child development and services in the local community.

Role playing the HIPPY activities with other parents and with Home Tutors can be scary but we can learn from each other and share strategies that have worked with children.

So attending group meetings provides opportunity to engage with other HIPPY families and share/learn ideas from each other.

Hope to see you there
Tina :)

Dates for the diary:

- ☺ 2nd Sept: Family Group Meeting— Your community library and you
- ☺ 16th Sept: Family Group Meeting— Self development, jewellery making.
- ☺ Don't forget your appointment with your Home Tutor.

Importance of Role Play

So why do Home Tutors role play ?

Role play is the prime method of teaching/ learning in the HIPPY program.

It provides an opportunity to discuss the purpose of each activity, a reflection time for the specific needs of the learner (parent and/or child) and develops new teaching skills.

Parents begin to understand how the child may feel doing the activities! It is a wonderful method of instruction that promotes a comfortable, non- threatening learning environment in which there is always room for mistakes.

Role play supports parents to understand more about the developmental capabilities of young children.

While Home Tutors visit your homes, build working relationships with families and supply the HIPPY resources, it is not expected that they deal with family or individual problems. Any such issues can be discussed with the HIPPY Coordinator who has contact details of other services in the community that may assist.

Inside this issue:

Our home tutors— worldwide	2
Bi-annual site visit from HIPPY Aust.	2
The home tutor and you	3
End of year celebrations	3
Ngala workshops	4
Important Ngala phone numbers	4
How the HIPPY Model works	4

Our Home Tutors—Famous World Wide

**As published in the “HIPPY Australia Newsletter”
Issue 10 June 2010**

HIPPY Rockingham commenced delivery of HIPPY in 2009. Now in their second year of delivery, the program has taken off. With the reputation of the program building, enrolments for 2010 were collected without complication and a full cohort was achieved by March.

Home tutors at HIPPY Rockingham are easier to recruit now that the program has built momentum. Also, tutors from last year are still enjoying doing HIPPY with their children. Two home tutors, Jo and Paula, have passed on some stories to illustrate how the program has affected their lives and their families.

Jo, who does HIPPY with her daughter Ellie, received a lovely surprise on Mothers Day this year. She says Ellie presented her with a Mothers Day card that read, ‘*I love doing HIPPY with you*’. This is a good reflection of how important and fun HIPPY has become in their daily lives

Home tutor Paula had this to say:

‘So, between tales of Master HIPPY (4) playing hairdresser with the supplied scissors on himself and his baby sister, and pure genius from Master HIPPY (5) answering the question of whether his feet are big or small (medium according to him), I have found myself feeling more excited as each week passes. Each training session brings more

activities and the interaction between parent and youngster is truly reaching heights that make me bounce in my chair.

I compare the HIPPY program to having an idea of what you would like to cook for dinner but you just don’t have the recipe for it. It (the program) brings activities to your living room and provides that extra nudge that you sometimes need to set time aside for your youngster. I love the way my son asks to do HIPPY each day. The little high pitched ‘eeee’ at the end makes me grin. People ask me what it is exactly that I do when I say I am a HIPPY home tutor and it feels like they’re asking what exactly does being a mum entail ... especially a mum of a four year-old. There’s not really a small answer for it but I usually say that I provide the stuff that mum or dad needs to keep little miss or master brainstorming. In a nutshell’.

Thanks to Jo and Paula for sharing their stories with us and congratulations to the team at Rockingham for their hard work and success.

Rae Hussey Site Visit

At the end of May, the HIPPY Rockingham and Girrawheen teams had a biannual site visit from Rae Hussey, National Coordinator from HIPPY Australia in Melbourne.

Rae’s visit entailed four jam-packed days talking with families, Home Tutors, Coordinators, other service providers, and the Professional Reference Group all to ascertain if we are on track with HIPPY.

In Rockingham Rae attended a home tutor training session and a family group meeting where we had over thirty families attend.

We have received full reports from HIPPY Australia, including very positive feedback about the skill and passion of the HIPPY Coordinators, and their teams of Home Tutors and Service Support Assistants.

We also received some recommendations to put in practice to ensure that the service we provide to our HIPPY families continues to be of a high standard. We have taken these

recommendations on board and have already started the process of implementing them.

Rae Hussey—National Co-ordinator & Tina Dean—Rockingham Co-ordinator.



The Home Tutor and You... We are a great team!

Home Tutors are chosen from the target HIPPY community in Rockingham because they understand what it is to be part of this community. The Home Tutors have children doing the HIPPY activities too and so can relate to your concerns, frustrations and many celebrations! Home Tutors have various work backgrounds and receive their initial and ongoing training to the HIPPY philosophy and program from the HIPPY Rockingham Coordinator.

We hope that parents see the Home Tutors and think, "he/she's like me; if he/she can do it, so can I". This is peer learning. Tutors become role models for parentsbut remember they are also men, women, mothers, fathers, wives, husbands, sisters, brothers, daughters and sons just like you! They too have good days and some not so good.

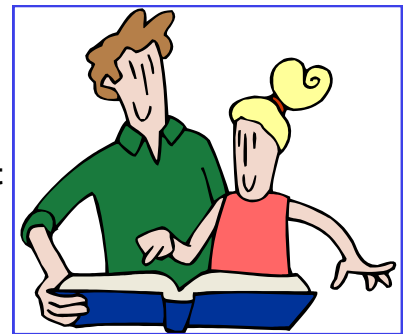
Home Tutors have homes to run, children to bring to and collect from school and child care, a partner and family and friends. They are employed for up to 15 hours per week. They try to organise times and days that suit the families and can visit between 10-12 families each week with relevant HIPPY resources, prepare weekly equipment/packs, role play the materials and keep accurate records for HIPPY. Tutors collect the children's worksheets and spend many hours maintaining a portfolio of completed work for each child. This very creative

piece of work is then returned to the child at Graduation. A great keep sake!

Many of the Tutors work only 2 days per week and may have 5-6 families to visit each day. They have role played the HIPPY activities with their child before they visit you in the home. This provides them with insight to methods that worked (or sometimes did not) with their child while implementing the daily activity. You can both learn from each other and then share these strategies at the HIPPY Group Meetings! Home Tutors have attended training sessions with the Coordinator in advance and have prepared the materials for home visits. They gain knowledge about the developmental capabilities of young children.

We will be recruiting new Home Tutors towards the end of this year ready for 2011. Let your Home Tutor know if you are interested in this role!

Although the Home Tutor is there to help and guide you through the HIPPY journey, the most important person in your child's HIPPY journey is YOU!



End of year celebration !

Plans are well under way for the end of year celebration, planned for early December 2010.

This event will celebrate the Age Four participants completing their first year in the HIPPY Program, and also the Age Five participants who have completed two years of the HIPPY program and will graduate from the program this year. Well Done!

This event will be extra special because we will be celebrating the graduation of HIPPY Rockingham inaugural five year olds. As our first intake of 4 year olds this group have demonstrated great commitment and enthusiasm to complete the two year program.

The Home Tutors are busy putting together portfolios of all your child's work this year. These portfo-

lios are presented to your child at the end of year celebration. They are a treasure to keep and I'm sure they will be looked back on with precious memories. So make sure you have samples of your child's work ready to give to your Home Tutor at every visit.

As the event gets closer we will send out invitations to all participants, with all relevant details. The last celebration we had in late March was a big hit and this one will be even better!



HIPPY Rockingham

113 Read Street
Rockingham WA 6168

Ph: 9368 9393

E: HIPPYRockingham@ngala.com.au

Ngala

Parenting with Confidence

Celebrating
120 years
1890-2010

Ngala Helpline

For families of babies and young children, the Helpline is available 8am to 8pm, 7 days a week.

Helpline
(08) 9368 9368
Country Access
1800 111 546

Other Ngala Services

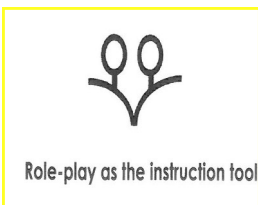
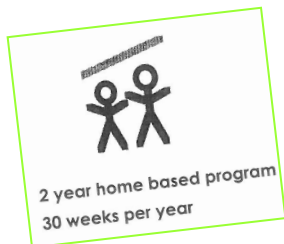
- **Parenting and Play Time** - Wednesdays 9.30 am – 11.30 am Read Street, Rockingham.

Ngala Parenting and Play Time provides opportunities for dads, mums, grandparents, aunts and uncles to discuss and share their early parenting ideas and concerns, and to learn about other helpful resources in their community.

- **Parenting Workshops** - the following sessions are being held in your area:
 - You and your new baby
 - Managing a baby and a toddler
 - And so to sleep

For more information phone 9368 9368 or go to www.ngala.com.au.

How the HIPPY model works.....



- Parents and children enroll in the program for 2 years or 60 weeks of activities (age 4/age 5)
- The activities are delivered to the parent by a Home Tutor.
- It is the responsibility of the Home Tutor to “role play” the activities with the parents.
- Home Tutors are also parents in the program
- The program is delivered through a pattern of Home visits and group meetings.

WE VALUE YOUR INPUT

Do you have a story to share? Information on upcoming events? HIPPY moments?

We would love to hear from you and publish your input into this newsletter.

Please e-mail us on HIPPYRockingham@ngala.com.au or phone on 9368-9393



Brotherhood of St Laurence
Working for an Australia free of poverty

The Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL) is licensed to operate HIPPY in Australia,

The Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.