



# Balnarring Preschool & Infant Welfare Association



Rated  
EXCELLENT  
by ACECQA



## Learning and Living with nature

### Gareeal Reflections July 2021

Welcome back to Term 3 everyone. We are looking forward to a fun term with some exciting adventures on BoonWurrung Country for our Living and Learning with Nature Program, including a visit to Coolart Wetlands which we unfortunately had to cancel last term. I will put out a term date planner shortly with all the key dates for the term as well as a roster for families to sign up to and join us. This term we will also start engaging children with the story 'Time of Chaos' which N'arweet Dr Carolyn Briggs AM BoonWurrung elder and clan head wrote and has asked the children of the kinder to illustrate. My plan is to introduce the main concepts of the story by focusing on the care for others and land (harmony) and how if we don't it can lead to chaos. This ties into our learning and activities last term where we collected rubbish from the biik and talked a lot about caring for others and the biik. It also links into one of our social goals this term in helping children further develop care for others through sharing and kind words and actions. There is a short video animation of the story available on you tube and I have attached the link below. Please note that I will not be showing this to the children at kinder and advise families to watch the video themselves and then to watch and talk through it with their child to help them understand the story if they wish.

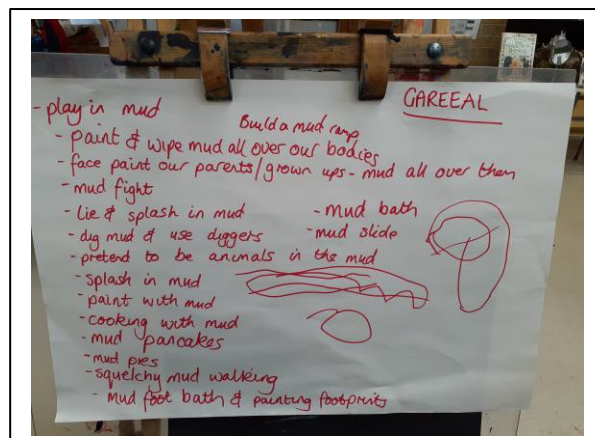
Full animation - Dreaming (BoonWurrung)

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=KDc1yggfVAY>

Shorter animation with N'arweet narration - Baykeepers Time of Chaos

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=6fSRJ03oDwc&vl=en>

For the last couple of weeks of term 2 the children continued to enjoy dressing up and engaging in imaginary play where they can take on different roles. We also worked together in a group to come up with activity ideas for mud day. This type of reflection and group activity allows children to share their ideas and actively be involved in the programming. It also helps them to build their executive function skills as they had to pay attention, focus and plan with support.



*Acknowledgement: Balnarring Preschool acknowledges that our children and families play and learn on Boon Wurrung Country. We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung of the Kulin Nation as the First Peoples of this land. We thank them for caring for the land and the waterways and value the sharing of their knowledge and stories. We pay our respects to their Elders: past and present.*



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We introduced a new process art experience for the children which was a big hit. They loved blowing bubbles to make pictures. Process art like this allows all children to succeed and we focus on the processes involved in making the art rather than the end products.

We celebrated the end of term with International Mud Day. It was a lot of fun and I know our families had just as much fun getting dirty and muddy with everyone as we did so thank you for being such great sports and joining in. The children loved the day and chose their level involvement. Despite the cold weather they really got involved! Inside we enjoyed making and eating mud pancakes and spent time getting our mud activities together for later. Once our families arrived, we had a lot of fun throwing, painting, jumping, swimming, sliding, splashing, cooking, walking and running in mud **GLORIOUS MUD**.



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THANKS, JILL

*Dates for the Diary!*

- TBC



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