

TUVALU EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

NOVEMBER 2022



THE WHAT

Meeting monthly, the Tuvalu Early Childhood Head Teachers and sector professionals, have met and discussed challenges and successes, in a shared learning space. Providing the opportunity for all teachers to discuss their practice, identify areas where they require support, and hear from their peers, and resident experts have enabled a place-based and contextually relevant professional learning program.

A number of topics have been covered over the year including Early Childhood Programming, measuring attendance, support health visits to preschools and sharing in the success of playgroup.

Supported by the Playgroup Professional Development program facilitated in December 2021, the Community of Practice meetings have heard of improved participation of parents with infants, and younger baby's coming along to playgroup sessions. The programming by early childhood teachers has supported this ensuring baby's have access to relevant activities, including a Baby Play Space, embedded in the Playgroup Planning Framework.

THE WHY

Communities of practice offers a mechanism that provides for members to actively participate, identify solutions through peer support and practice wisdom, and share knowledge while innovating and testing new ideas.



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THE HOW

Utilising the Pacific connection internet infrastructure, Tuvaluan Early Childhood Head Teachers and sector professionals, meet on a monthly basis. Through the Community of Practice, participants were introduced to training relating to how to implement the activities in the activity bank. This included how they can be used in programming activities in playgroup, how to role model the activities for parents and encourage parents to take home activity cards to improve the home learning environment. Through this type of training, teachers are able to ask questions, and able to contextualise the learning for their centres.

Representatives from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports have been in attendance at these meeting's and used the platform to communicate key messages

and expectations, policies and processes in the early childhood sector ensuring national consistency in reporting, planning and administration of early childhood programs.

This year has also seen some changes, with a uniform approach, with all Playgroups operating in the morning. Previously there were different start times across different centers. This consistency has helped families to know what time playgroup starts, and to embed this as part of their routine.



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Stats for 2022

5 CoP Sessions
11 participants avg attendance
Infinite value to quality assurance and
improvements to pedagogy

BENEFITS

Benefits for early childhood
educators participating in the
Tuvalu Early Childhood
Community of Practice include:

Opportunities for collaboration;
Empowering individuals to share
their wisdom;
Innovating and creating solutions
to problems from practice;
Rapid prototyping for managing
challenges;
Advocacy for resources and other
needs.
Self-directed learning on topics of
interest.

Examples of topics that have
been covered in discussion
have included:

Preschool and Playgroup
planning

Scheme of work

Collection and reporting of
administration data

Strategies to engage parents at
playgroup

Nurse monitoring tools

Implementation strategies for
the Activity Banks

Programming for babies at
playgroup

Child development messaging
for parents

Citation

Bradbrook, C. Taulaga, K. (2022). Tuvalu: Early
Childhood Community of Practice. Tuvalu Ministry of
Education, Youth and Sports.



Every moment
matters



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