

Learning Through Play

Goodbye Time and Reflecting on Our Day



Objectives:

- To understand what are the activities at the end of the session Clean Up:
 - Goodbye Time Activities
 - Circle sharing and reflections highlighting learning for the day and sharing feelings
 - Goodbye song

What is Goodbye Time?

Goodbye Time is the last activity of the ECD programme. It has two activities, a daily reflection time and a goodbye song.

Why do we have Goodbye Time?

- It provides a formal end to the day so the children know it is time to go home.
- The Goodbye Time provides an opportunity to reflect on the day and discuss successes and issues.

How do we do Goodbye Time?

- The teacher uses a signal, clapping hands, sings a song or plays music to indicate to the children it is time to pack the activities away.
- All children are encouraged to help with tidying up in the room.
- Toys and games are put back into their storage containers and placed on shelves or carried to the teacher.
- Everybody working together to clean the room develops a sense of social responsibility and caring for others.
- When everyone has finished helping, the children sit on the mat or gathering area.
- Teacher talks to the children in the circle.
- Ask them one thing they enjoyed doing today, and 3 children can reply.
- Teacher asks the children if there were any issues. One child can reply and the teacher discusses the issues with the group.
- The children are encouraged to think of how they could do things differently tomorrow, engaging children in problem solving.
- Sometimes the teacher can write a reminder of the new behaviour children will try at the next session.

Each programme will have a different way of dismissing the children from the room. If children need to wait for their caregivers to arrive, it is good to have an activity like reading books or some manipulative activities while they are waiting.

This could be a time when caregivers join the children in their games for a few minutes.

Adapting Goodbye Time for Children with Diverse Needs

• No special adaptions are needed for children with diverse learning needs.

Reflection questions for teachers about Goodbye Time?

- What strategies do you use to model daily reflections with children?
- How do you make reflections inclusive of all children in the group?
- What did you learn from the video that you will add to your daily practice to encourage children to reflect on their experience during the day?



