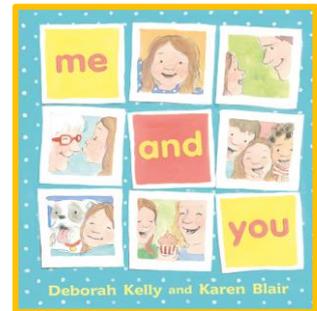


Me and You

by Deborah Kelly and Karen Blair

Me and You celebrates the value in spending time together. The text flows like a happy song and the illustrations capture the fun and laughter of each and every moment. From *handy helper* days, *sausage sizzle* days and *arty crafty* days this joyful rhyming picture book has a very important message, to “seize the day” and enjoy spending time together with friends and family. It might inspire a special day, trip or experience too for your listeners too!



Key Message for Parents

The best learning happens in nurturing relationships

Children have better outcomes when they feel loved, secure and supported. Nurturing is vital to a child’s emotional, social and physical development.

Make time in your day to sing and play together- Nurturing a child is fun. Today’s story is all about connection, which comes from spending time together. If possible set aside time in the week when special, uninterrupted time can be enjoyed and work can be set aside.

Learning Outcomes

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

Children develop understandings of themselves and their world through active, hands on play and investigations.

As educators and carers we can support a child’s wellbeing in the following ways

- Respond positively to a child’s efforts with lots of praise and smiles
- Making time in the day for activities together
- Encourage children to talk about their feelings. Learning to express themselves and understand their own feelings will help them to develop empathy and understanding of others
- Role play games, puppets and dress ups are fun ways children can express themselves and learn about emotions and feelings

Find booklists, tip sheets, nursery rhymes and activity and learning time sheets @

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au     



Themes within this story

- Families
- Getting out and about
- Play

Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their children.

Welcome everyone, introduce yourself, remind adults to turn their mobile phones off and that there will be time for adults to chat after the story and songs.

Welcome Song (or your preferred song)

Have the words available as a handout or written on a board or butcher's paper for the adults to read and join in.

Good Morning

Good morning to you

Good morning to you

Good morning everybody

and welcome to you!



Song

My Hands Are Clapping (Playschool)

<http://www.abc.net.au/abcforkids/video/show.htm?show=PLAY-SCHOOL&videoId=4621910>

My hands are clapping, clapping, clapping: my hands are clapping, just like this!

My hands are waving, waving, waving: my hands are waving, just like this

Can you say hello to the person next to you? And the person behind as well?



Before Reading

Make sure children and adults are sitting comfortably. Today's story is called **Me and You** by Deborah Kelly and Karen Blair. Can you use your hands and point to yourself? Can you point to your mum/dad/carer? Practice saying out loud "me and you, you and me" pointing to each other!

What sorts of fun things do you enjoy doing together? Take a few moments to share stories.

During Reading

The illustrations capture the joy and happiness of each special day. Make sure you spend time looking at each page, encouraging the children to tell you who and what they can see. The text is easy and fun to read, with a rhythmic and bouncy beat. It is playful as well using words like "scrummy" and "woofy wagging days". Children will enjoy this sense of fun and silliness.



After Reading

What sort of days can your listeners remember were mentioned in the story? Ask each child if they could have or choose a special day, what sort of day they would choose?

Invite parents and children to play together in ways that relate to the story

- Sing 'Row, row, row your boat' (outside, having fun days)
- Sing 'Round and round the garden' (tummy tickling days)
- Roll a ball back and forth to each other (footy playing days)

Activity Time

Play Doughy Day

Play doh is great for strengthening muscles and developing fine motor skills in little hands - the possibilities for play and fun are endless!

What to do:

- Have a range of assorted play dough tools available. Plastic spoon, plastic shape cutters, pop sticks etc.
- You could have several different "colour stations" where the play dough, cutters, props and tools are the same colour.

Imaginative Play - Give children a paper plate and allow them to prepare some "food" for a special pretend picnic. Have a rug on the floor and maybe some dolls or teddies, ready for the pretend picnic.

Simple Play Dough Recipe

You will need:

- 1 cup plain flour
- 1 cup hot water
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1 teaspoon oil
- 1/4 cup salt
- food colouring (optional).

What to do:

1. Mix all dry ingredients in a large bowl
2. Measure water into a jug, add oil and food colouring if desired
3. Pour water and oil over dry ingredients and mix together
4. Allow mixture to cool in the bowl. Sprinkle some flour onto the table or bench and cover your hands with flour, this helps to prevent mixture sticking to the bench and your hands
5. Tip out mixture and knead dough until smooth
6. Place in plastic bag or airtight container when cooled. If airtight it will last for at least a month





Extension Ideas

- Build a cubby with sheets and blankets
- Play hide and Seek
- Plant succulents into tea cups or old jars
- Fill a box or large container with sand, fill cups and play
- Read a book in an unusual place...outside like under a tree in a park!
- Blow up a balloon and play catch or tennis with ping pong bats

Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of books that parents might want to share with their children. The Little Big Book Club suggests the following books to support learning in this area:

- ***Fearless with Dad*** by Cori Brooke and Giuseppe Poli
- ***Baby Animal Farm*** by Karen Blair
- ***Quick as a Wink, Fairy Pink!*** by Lesley Gibbes and Sara Acton
- ***Can We Lick the Spoon Now?*** by Carol Goess and Tamsin Ainslie

Goodbye Song

Depending on the size of your group, you may wish to insert each child's name in the place of 'you' as it develops a more personal relationship between yourself, the child and the family.

Sung to the tune of (*Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*) **or** your preferred choice.

Goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye (use a waving action) Say goodbye, say goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye

To all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!

