Pink!
Margaret Wild and Judith Rossell

Pink loves being pink. However, when her pinkness means she is the first one found in her favourite game of hide and seek, Pink begins to question her difference. As Pink learns to accept herself, she finds strength to help her friends. With gorgeous digital illustrations with pops of pink and lots of vibrant greens, Pink will delight any dinosaur loving child.

Key Message for Parents | Children’s wellbeing is critical to brain development and learning

Children perform better when they feel valued and cared for by the important people around them. Some ideas to share with parents/carers are:

- Provide opportunities for interaction before and after your storytime sessions. Chatting and enjoying time together helps build positive relationships.
- Encourage positive self esteem by giving children time to have a go at new things and praise and reward efforts with positive messages like “Well done, I can see you are trying hard” or “You’re special to me and to our family”

Australian Early Years Learning Framework | Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

When children have positive experiences, they develop an understanding of themselves as significant and respected and feel a sense of belonging. There are many ways educators can help children develop a strong sense of identity including;

- Talking with children in respectful ways about similarities and difference in people.
- Motivate and encourage children to succeed when they are faced with challenges.
- Acknowledge each child’s uniqueness in positive ways.

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!

You may like to introduce the book at this stage, or use a song to help prepare your group and introduce the upcoming story and activities.

Song

If you’re happy and you know it

If you’re happy and you know it clap your hands

If you’re happy and you know it clap your hands

If you’re happy and you know it then you really ought to show it

If you’re happy and you know it clap your hands

Repeat with stomp your feet and shout hooray.

Before Reading

Before showing the book explain that we are going to read a book called Pink! Ask the children what they think the story will be about, who are the characters and where will the story be set. This is a great way to develop children’s skills in predicting and explaining their thought processes.

When you show the cover, the children can see if any of the predictions were close.

Talk about how the title on the cover has been constructed - use of the dinosaur’s head as the letter P.

Now children have seen the cover ask them to predict again what the story will be about. Has seeing the cover changed what the children think?

Ask what is the main thing children can see on the cover? How many dinosaurs can they see (Hint: look closely!)? Can they see any other animals?
During Reading

As you start reading the book tell the children that it’s your job to read the words and their job to read the pictures. Illustrations help portray parts of the story not told in the words.

On the first reading, read the story all the way through without interruption. This helps children understand the flow of the story.

Reread the story and think about asking questions and pointing out things as you read;
- Were there any clues that a pink dinosaur would come out of the egg?
- Point out how whenever the work pink appears in the text that it is written in a pink colour.
- Discuss works like ‘disguise’ and ‘camouflage’.
- Have any children noticed the insects on each page - make list of the different types and count how many of each.
- Look at the end papers - is Pink hiding there?

After Reading

Discuss what type of dinosaurs were in the story. Have a range of nonfiction books about dinosaurs for children to browse and find the types of dinosaurs that are in the story.

Discuss how Pink was feeling about being different. Talk about how everyone has their own qualities that make them special and unique.

Song

Dino Stomp

The dinosaurs were dancing around the prehistoric swamp

They shook their heads, swished their tails

And did the dino stomp, stomp, stomp, stomp

Dance dino, dance dino, stomp, stomp, stomp

Dance dino, dance dino, stomp, stomp, stomp

They shook their heads, swished their tails

And did the dino stomp, stomp stomp!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kuh49qCrMHU

Extension Ideas

- Have some playdough and dinosaur figures for children to make a small world and act out the story.
- Using pink playdough children can make the letter P. Can they make other letters? Use a playdough alphabet mat to guide them.
Talk about colours - make a list of colours
Dinosaur colouring sheets - each child to colour the dinosaur their favourite colour. Put these on display.
Play a game of hide and seek

STEM Focus

Children are natural scientists. They are always asking questions about how things work. You can explore science in everyday activities and by doing simple experiments. The dinosaur hatched out of an egg in the story. In your introduction to this simple egg hatching experiment you can talk about other animals that hatch out of eggs. This experiment will help children learn about how warm and cold water react with ice to make it melt.

Frozen Dinosaur eggs

You will need
Plastic dinosaurs, balloons, water, eye dropper, bowls of warm and cold water.

Put a plastic dinosaur inside a balloon and fill with water. Tie the balloon and freeze. Repeat so you have a couple of eggs to hatch. When frozen cut the balloon and peel it away from the ice egg. Before you start to melt the eggs with the water ask the children to makes some predictions about which type of water will melt the egg faster. Using an eye dropper see which type of water (warm or cold) hatches the eggs quicker. Does pouring the water make it melt quicker then just using the eye dropper? What about adding other substances such as dirt, salt or sand? What affect does that have?

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. If your library has copies, make them available for families to borrow or include them in your story time session.

For more stories to share, we recommend the following titles:
- Dinosaur day out by Sara Acton
- Its okay to be different by Todd Parr
- Once upon a small rhinoceros by Meg McKinlay

An Activity Time for this book is available to download for FREE from our website. This is a great resource to share with families, you are welcome to print and distribute as necessary.

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 choice.
Goodbye
This is the way we say goodbye (wave) say goodbye, say goodbye
This is the way we say goodbye to all our library friends (or) (to our friend......)!