



TOPIC – Native Australia with Musical Minds

Dates - weeks starting 11, 18, 25 May 2026

Wurundjeri season - Waring (Wombat)

Reconciliation Week - 27 May – 3 June

The theme for 2026 is ALL IN. We are ALL IN this together, let's ALL be active learners IN our understanding of First Nations culture. Let's ALL dance, let's ALL sing, let's ALL move, Let's ALL LEARN.



KEY LEARNING AREAS

The Elements of Music & Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) Curriculum Outcomes

Outcome 1 - children have a strong sense of identity

- 1.1 they share in social music making and learning

Outcome 2 - children are connected with and contribute to their world

- 2.1 they learn songs that reflect the seasons around them, they notice the changing landscape.
- 2.2 they take action to assist other children to participate in social groups
- 2.3 they develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities, and learning to respect diversity, culture, and heritage, including the cultures of First Nations - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Outcome 3 - children have a strong sense of wellbeing

- 3.1 increasingly co-operate and work collaboratively with others

Wurundjeri Season – Waring Season (Wombat)

- This season, which falls from April to July, is characterized by cool and wet weather, misty mornings, and longer nights.
 - Wombats become more active during the day, emerging from their burrows to graze and soak up the winter sunshine.
 - Fungi emerge in the bush, and the land becomes richer and more texture
- <https://inspiringvictoria.org.au/2020/08/13/seasons-in-the-sky/>

<https://museumsvictoria.com.au/melbournemuseum/resources/forest-secrets/>

Developmental Stage	Key Learning Area	Outcome	Key Word Sign - Auslan
Nursery	Let's follow the movement of the sounds of the instruments: fast and slow, high and low, loud (big) and soft (small)	1.1, 2.1	Wombat Kangaroo Moth
Toddlers	Let's follow the rhythm of a song. We can start to hear the difference in short and longer rhythms. Let's follow the teachers rhythmic playing and movement as we explore these songs.	1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1	Rain Day Night
Kinder 3	Let's play short and long rhythms and identify the sounds as ti-ti (shorter sounds – quavers) and ta (longer sounds – crotchets). Let's play musical phrases together as we learn these songs.	1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1	All In Reconciliation Week Key Word Sign for the 2026 theme.
Kinder 4/ Pre-Prep	Let's echo rhythmic phrases (musical sentences) using ta (crotchets), ti-ti (quavers) and sa or shhh (1 beat rest notes). Let's identify the rhythmic patterns in our xylophone piece.	1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1	



Musical Minds Weekly Routine Songs

It's Time For Music | Let's Make a circle | Wake up Puppet | Shake and Stop
| Goodbye Song and we always share in an acknowledgement of country.

Our weekly routine songs are designed to support children's musical development by introducing and reinforcing the Elements of Music, including beat, structure, pitch, tempo, rhythm, dynamics, timbre, and expression.

These songs form the foundation of each child's musical learning. They are carefully composed and taught to promote understanding, recall, and the development of early music skills through active participation.

Each week, the songs are revisited with intentional and creative variations. This approach supports memory retention, deepens conceptual understanding, and allows children to progressively build musical knowledge in a developmentally appropriate way.

As children transition toward learning an individual instrument in Primary School, they will have established a strong and transferable understanding of how music works, providing a solid foundation for future musical learning.

It's Time For Music (*welcome song*)

Come on in it's time for music
Come on in it's music time
We'll sing and dance and play along
We'll sing and dance all day long

Shake and Stop (*sound and silence*)

We're going to shake and shake and shake and stop
Shake and shake and shake and stop
Shake and shake and shake and stop
Then we'll shake some more

Circle Song (*making music together*)

Let's make a circle, circle, circle
Let's make a circle it's music time.

Wake up Puppet (*high & low sounds*)

Wake up *puppet name* how are you today?
So – mi – so – mi – do – do -re – do
G – E – G – E – C - C - D - C1

Goodbye Song (*Key Word Sign - Auslan*)

Key Words Signs: Goodbye, Time, to go, We, Day.

Goodbye, goodbye it's time to go
Goodbye, goodbye it's time to go
We must say, you made our day
Goodbye, goodbye it's time to go



Wake up your teacher's unique puppet every week.

A puppet supports a child's imagination, confidence, and empathy by providing a safe, playful way to explore ideas, express feelings, and practise understanding others through role play.

What is your teachers' puppets name?

Lyrics: Wake up _____ (2 syllable name) how are you today!

Actions: head, shoulders, head, shoulders, fist, fist, rocket to high fist

Solfège: So - mi - so - mi - do - do - re - do1

SING at pitch (words & solfège)

FEEL the music kinaesthetically (actions)

SEE the music visually (Curwen music hand signs)

HEAR the music aurally (practice singing together)

SOLFÈGE HAND SIGNS



TEACH
BESIDEME

	DO		
	TI		
	LA		
	SOL		
	FA		
	MI		
	RE		
	DO		

PRINTABLE CHARTS & FLASH CARDS



3 - Weekly Song List

Our teachers rotate through these songs over a three-week period. Children who attend weekly music classes will learn all of the songs, while those who attend less frequently: fortnightly and monthly classes, will be taught a selection of these songs.

Native Australia / Waring Season with Musical Minds

HELLO SONG

A short, welcoming song that warms up the body and mind, engages attention, and fosters connection.

- Haere Mai Giddy (Janet Channon & Wendy Jensen)
- Everybody do this

CORE TOPIC SONG with graphic notation reading sheet for Kinder.

This song introduces key lyrics and concepts related to the lesson. Children learn through interactive methods such as echoing or repeating after the teacher, which supports memory, language development, and active participation.

- Kangaroo Skippy Roo

TOPIC SONG

These songs highlight all elements of music and connect to EYLF topics, helping children explore rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, and expression in a fun, engaging way.

- Ed and Brenda's Big Adventure (Story by Emma Cary - Australian Author)
- Wombat Chat (Waring Season)

ELEMENTS SONGS

These songs focus on a single element of music, such as rhythm, pitch, or dynamics, allowing children to explore and develop a deeper understanding of that specific musical concept through fun, engaging activities.

- Days are short, and the nights are long in Waring Season (Tanya Bethune)
- Crow, Crow (Indigenous Studies Press Poem. Set to music by Tanya Bethune.)

LULLABY

Lullabies provide a calming musical experience that helps children rest and relax. They support emotional regulation, promote a sense of security, and contribute to healthy brain development and overall well-being.

- Maranoa Lullaby (South West QLD)
- Rain Moth (Tanya Bethune)

REFLECTION SONGS FOR RECONCILIATION WEEK

- Itsy Bitsy Yerree
- Inanay
- Maranoa Lullaby

TRANSITION SONG IDEA

Songs can help children move smoothly between activities by providing a predictable, engaging cue. Using music during transitions supports emotional regulation, reduces anxiety, reinforces routines, and keeps children focused and engaged.

- How do you say hello in your classroom? *Haere Mai, Giddy, Bonjour, Namaste*
- Can you jump like a Kangaroo? Waddle like a wombat?
- Before we go for a walk, can you make short movements like this? And Long movements like this.





Songs & Activities

Our teachers introduce these songs using developmentally appropriate approaches, incorporating instruments, key learning areas, and engaging activities across all rooms.

This allows children to learn and enjoy the same songs together, supporting continuity and shared musical experiences across the centre and with their families at home.

We have also included an **activity** for each song that ELC educators can use in the classroom when the program is not being delivered.

HELLO SONG

A short, welcoming song that warms up the body and mind, engages attention, and fosters connection.

Haere Mai Giddy (Janet Channon & Wendy Jensen)

Activity idea for Educators – What languages are spoken in your Centre? Say hello in these languages and add them into the song.

C **F**
Haere mai, giddy, giddy,
G **C**
Its great to see you here today
C **F**
Hello, hello, ah nyong, ah nyong (or Shalom)

G **C**
Come on in and sing a song
C
Circle your hands, (echo)
F
Around and around, (echo)
C
Shake your eyebrows, (echo) **G7**
Up and down, (echo)
F
Swing your arms, (echo)
C
Around and around, (echo)
F
Stamp your feet, (echo)
G7
Upon the ground, (echo)



Everybody Do This!

Activity idea for Educators – Follow the leader! Who wants to be the leader this time? What rhythm will you tap? Will you sing high or low?

C
Everybody do this
F **C**
Do this do this
C
Everybody do this
G7 **C**
Just like me



CORE TOPIC SONG with graphic notation reading sheet for Kinder



This song introduces key lyrics and concepts related to the lesson. Children learn through interactive methods such as echoing or repeating after the teacher, which supports memory, language development, and active participation.

Kangaroo Skippy Roo

- Download your chime bar reading music from the website.

Activity idea for Educators – Play the Game! Hop like a kangaroo, sleep under the imaginary tree and then hop up and run around the playground.

<p>Curwen Hand Signs (visual)</p>	<p>Minor Key</p>																								
<p>Beat Solfège Pitch Chime Bar Reading</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1 So-so G</td> <td>2 mi E</td> <td>3 so-so G-G</td> <td>4 mi E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 So-so G-G</td> <td>2 mi-mi E-E</td> <td>3 so-so G-G</td> <td>4 mi E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 So-so G-G</td> <td>2 mi-mi E-E</td> <td>3 so-so G-G</td> <td>4 mi E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 So-fa G-F</td> <td>2 mi-re E-D</td> <td>3 do-do C-C</td> <td>4 do C</td> </tr> </table>				1 So-so G	2 mi E	3 so-so G-G	4 mi E	1 So-so G-G	2 mi-mi E-E	3 so-so G-G	4 mi E	1 So-so G-G	2 mi-mi E-E	3 so-so G-G	4 mi E	1 So-fa G-F	2 mi-re E-D	3 do-do C-C	4 do C	<p>Kangaroo</p>				
1 So-so G	2 mi E	3 so-so G-G	4 mi E																						
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<p>Beat Rhythm Rhythm Notation</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1 Ti-ti</td> <td>2 ta</td> <td>3 ti-ti</td> <td>4 ta</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				1 Ti-ti	2 ta	3 ti-ti	4 ta																	
1 Ti-ti	2 ta	3 ti-ti	4 ta																						
<p>Structure</p>	<p>ABBC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen for the similarities and differences. • Both B sections are the same • Can you hear how the C section is different? It descends, becomes lower 																								
<p>Chords Lyrics</p>	<p>C Kangaroo Skippy Roo C Dozing in the midday sun F Underneath a big red gum G7 C Oh! What fun it is to run!</p>																								

TOPIC SONG

These songs highlight all elements of music and connect to EYLF topics, helping children explore beat, rhythm, pitch, structure, dynamics, tempo, and expression in a fun, engaging way.



Ed & Brenda's Big Adventure

Composed to a book by Emma Cary (Thornbury, Melbourne Author)

Activity idea for Educators – Jump like a Kangaroo in the Chorus and then ride your bike in the Verse = 2 part structure.

Chorus

D
Have you ever heard of Kangaroos, who like
to ride on bikes?
G **D**
Well, Ed and Brenda really do and it's a
tandem bike they like
A **A7** **D** **A7**
D
Have you ever, ever heard of Kangaroo's who
ride bikes?



Verse

D
Now, Ed & Brenda think their bike is really,
really cool
G **D**
It has two seats, two wheels and four pedals
at their feet
A **D**
They ride together in every kind of weather (3
beats rest)

Chorus

D
They see things they've never seen,
Adventures they want more
G **D**
Australia is where they begin exploring lots of
things
A **D**
They make new friends and learn along the
way (3 beats rest)

Chorus

Wombat Chat

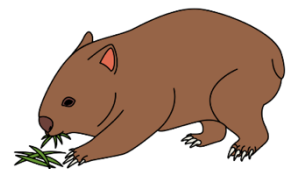
Activity idea for Educators – Can you make the Key Word Sign in Auslan for wombat?

Wombat, you're a unique individual.
A rare and special marsupial.
Let's have a chat
About the wombat.

There's barely anywhere that you can't go.
You're very comfortable in the snow.
Digging your burrows to and fro.
They're very muscular don't you know.

Good friends with your
neighbour the possum.
And if you should spot some mayhem.
You can run down your burrow and block em'.
With your ample bottom.

You're very shy and a little bit shrewd.
It takes one week to digest your food.
Sometimes it seems like you're not in the best
mood.
But how would you feel if your poop was a
cube.



ELEMENTS SONGS

These songs focus on a single element of music, such as rhythm, pitch, or dynamics, allowing children to explore and develop a deeper understanding of that specific musical concept through fun, engaging activities.



The Days Are Short & The Nights Are Long

Activity idea for Educators - In Waring season our days are short and the nights are long. Can you make short rhythmic sounds and long rhythmic sounds?

The days are short short, short, short, short and

The nights are long, long, long,

Short short, long, short short, long

Come on in and sing this song.

Ti-ti, ta, ti-ti, ta

Ta ta ta ta

Ti-ti, ta, ta, ti-ti

Ta ta ta sa (shhh) "off to sleep."



Crow Crow

Inspired by Anna the Goanna and other poems written by Jill McDougall and Illustrated by Jenny Taylor. Published by the Aboriginal studies press in 2000. Page 26-29.

Activity idea for Educators - Rest and relax as the Crow drifts off to sleep.

Dm

Crow Crow, where do you go

Dm Am

When the day gets dark

Am Dm

When the sun sinks low

Gm

Crow crow

Dm Am

Please don't go

Am

Tell me where you sleep

Am Dm

When the sun sinks low



ELEMENTS SONGS

These songs focus on a single element of music, such as rhythm, pitch, or dynamics, allowing children to explore and develop a deeper understanding of that specific musical concept through fun, engaging activities.



The Rain Moth

Activity idea for Educators - The Rain Moth (*bardee, bardy, bardi*) is found in the southern half of Australia. The rain moth is found right across southern Australia in woodland areas alongside creeks and gullies, especially near eucalyptus trees. Can you spot the rain moth flying on the wind? Can you flitter like a moth, find it's rhythm.

Verse 1

C F
On a misty morning the moth flies,
G7 F C
Over the creek and up in the sky
F
"I'm a moth" I cry, "not a butterfly! (Kinder kids learn this line)
F G7
You see, I'm furry, that's no lie"

Chorus

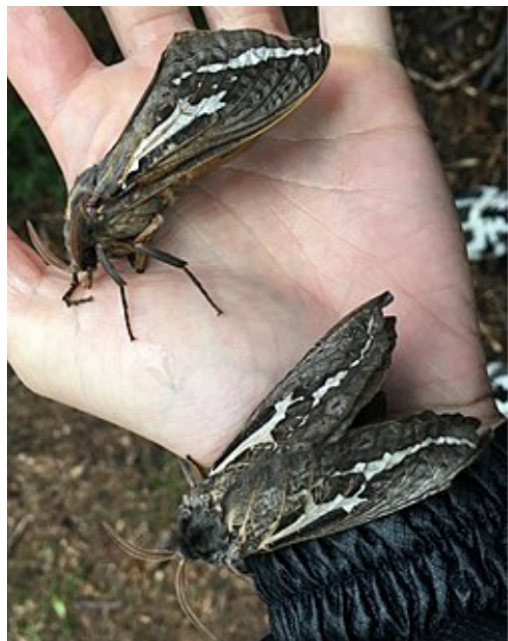
C F
I flitter, futter, flitter fly
G7 C
Flitter, flutter, flitter, stop

Verse 2

C F G7
In the cold morning I like to fly
G7 F C
Over the creek like a spy
F
I spread my wings, dust and scales
F G7 C
I fly before the big rain hails

Coda

C
Can you spot the moth
F G7
Flying in the sky
C
Can you spot the moth
F G7
Fitter, flutter, flitter stop





LULLABY

Lullabies provide a calming musical experience that helps children rest and relax. They support emotional regulation, promote a sense of security, and contribute to healthy brain development and overall well-being.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW)

Reflection on the songs from the past three weeks that help us learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia - **National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn.**

The theme for 2026 is ALL IN. We are ALL IN this together, let's ALL be active learners IN our understanding of First Nations culture. Let's ALL dance, let's ALL sing, let's ALL move.

Maranoa Lullaby

Maranoa South West Queensland



For over forty years, Gunggari woman Ethel Munn has held as a treasure amongst her belongings a booklet of songs which she believes faithfully record the language and music of her people in the Maranoa area/region of south west Queensland.

Activity idea for Educators - Rest, sway and relax as the wind gently moves your body as you sing.

Maranoa Lullaby

Aboriginal
Collected and translated by
H. O. Lethbridge
Music arranged by A. S. Loam

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Sleep as falls the dark, In your bed of bark.
Mum - ma war - ru - no, Mur - ra wath - un - no,

None shall harm you, dear, Moth er watch - es near.
Mum - ma war - run - no, Mur - ra wath - un - no.

Inanay (Yorta Yorta)

Activity idea for Educators - Rest, sway and relax as the wind gently moves your body as you sing.

Inanay gupu wanna
Inanay gupu wanna

Goo wana goo wana
Goo wana goo wana

Ay ay ay oola
Oola oola oola
Ay Yippee yay yippee yay

Goo wah - Choo!



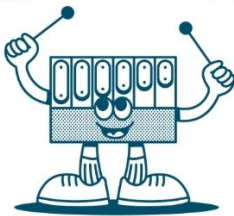
Music Resources

(print & share)

Music is for everyone



MUSICAL MINDS



PDF Lyrics & Activity
Song Videos
Graphic Music Reading Sheet
New Topics Every 3 Weeks!!



musicalminds.com.au/elcsupportmaterials/



[musical.minds_](https://www.instagram.com/musical.minds_)



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