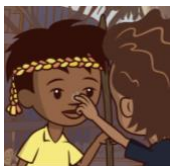




EARLY CHILDHOOD EPISODE 8: WELCOME



Synopsis: Little J and Big Cuz compete to create the 'best welcome ever' for a surprise guest.

This Episode is about Ms Chen organising a surprise guest to visit the school. The children decide amongst themselves who will do a Welcome (which is an important thing to do) but not without some tension. Levi and Little J want to do a dance, with traditional moves that Levi's granddad taught him. Sissy and Big Cuz want to do a poem, but worry that Ms Chen will decide the boy's welcome dance is more exciting. All of the kids get to participate in the Welcome, and the surprise guest ends up being Nanna!

There are opportunities to use this episode and activities to educate young children about Indigenous Knowledges, respect, and working together in alignment with the Cross Curriculum Priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures (*Version 8.4*).

In this Teacher Pack, there is an overview of how this episode can be utilised for key Learning Outcomes, including ***prompting questions***, with an outline of some activities based on the principles and practices outlined in the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF).

Along with best practice pedagogical approaches, and AITSL Standards relating to Indigenous content, we encourage all teachers to find ways to link the content of each episode to the local community in which they teach.

**If you're planning on utilising additional resources (such as videos, websites, books etc) touching on themes that are covered in this episode, we recommend you use the 'AIATSIIS Guide to selecting and evaluating educational resources' to ensure you're representing Indigenous perspectives accurately.*

Links to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF):

Learning Outcomes

- Children are connected with and contribute to their world.
- Children are confident and involved learners.
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.
- Children are effective communicators.
- Children have a strong sense of identity.
- Children are active and informed members of the community.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROMPTING QUESTIONS

These activities incorporate the key elements of the EYLF, such as play-based learning, cultural responsiveness, and holistic approaches to child development, while also fostering an appreciation for Elders, and the processes of a Welcome. They also leverage the content from this episode to enhance children's screen literacy and engagement.

Below are some **prompting questions** to encourage children's digital/screen literacies and comprehension. These questions aim to engage children in discussions about the story, characters, and themes.

- *"Who is teaching Little J a special dance in the episode?"*
 - (Answer: Levi is teaching Little J a special dance).
- *"What has Dee made, and who showed her how to make it?"*
 - (Answer: Dee made a basket. It is called a "tirina" in palawa kani (a language from lutruwita/Tasmania) and the Aunties showed her how to make it).
- *"What gifts are included in Dee's basket?"*
 - (Answer: Dee's basket is filled with homemade goodies).
- *"Who does Sissy nominate to welcome the special guest?"*
 - (Answer: Sissy nominates herself and Big Cuz to welcome the special guest).
- *"Why is Big Cuz nervous about the Welcome?"*
 - (Answer: Big Cuz is nervous because she doesn't like being in the spotlight and it's a special event where they have to perform a Welcome for the guest).
- *"What special animal moves does Levi show Little J?"*
 - (Answer: Levi shows Little J animal moves, including the kangaroo).
- *"What does Little J impersonate while practising the dance?"*
 - (Answer: Little J impersonates Old Dog and also a magpie).
- *"Why do Big Cuz and Little J stay awake at night?"*
 - (Answer: They stay awake because they are worried about their Welcome performance).
- *"What does Big Cuz think is better: the dance or the poem?"*
 - (Answer: Big Cuz thinks Ms Chen will think the dance looks more fun than the poem).
- *"How does Levi make his warrior headband?"*
 - (Answer: Levi uses his grandpa's old undies to make the warrior headband. Isn't that great to recycle old material!).
- *"Who is the special guest at the assembly?"*
 - (Answer: Nanna is the special guest at the assembly).
- *"What advice does Nanna give about arguing?"*
 - (Answer: Nanna says that arguing doesn't make people feel very welcome).
- *"What do Big Cuz and Sissy do for the Welcome?"*
 - (Answer: Big Cuz and Sissy write a poem for the Welcome, and it rhymes).
- *"What does Big Cuz use to keep the beat during the welcome performance?"*
 - (Answer: Big Cuz uses clapsticks to keep the beat during the welcome performance).

