



Being LeadSmart at preschool

Preschool - Module 3

Module overview

This lesson gives children the opportunity to explore strategies to be LeadSmart while at school. They will investigate their preschool environment via a scavenger hunt activity while learning about LeadSmart strategies they can use at school.

Aims and objectives

- Broaden their understanding of the world in which they live
- Express an opinion on a matter that affects them
- Demonstrate a sense of comfort and belonging in their environment
- Use play to investigate, project and explore new ideas
- Participate with others to solve problems and contribute to group outcomes
- Show growing appreciation and care for natural and constructed environments
- Express wonder and interest in their environments
- Are curious and enthusiastic participants in their learning
- Explore their environments
- Show an increasing awareness of healthy lifestyles and good nutrition
- Show increasing independence and competence in personal hygiene, care and safety for themselves and others

Differentiation

As with all of the LeadSmart Education modules, we encourage you to differentiate the following activities by making any necessary modifications in order to cater for diverse student learning needs.

Note: The suggested duration of the activities found within this module may require adjustment to cater for the needs of your students.

Resources

- Envelope
- Letter from Lead Ted Jnr (you can use the suggested text or write your own)
- Bear paw print cards (printed and laminated prior to activity)
- Preschool activity booklets
- Lead and coloured pencils
- Materials for sensory play: Tub, container, coloured pom poms, and glitter pom poms
- Materials for exploratory play: Outdoor play equipment and hats
- Materials for manipulative play: Lego blocks
- Materials for creative play: Be a LeadSmart handwasher
- Supplementary IWB resources

EYLF learning outcomes

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

- 2.1 Children develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities and an understanding of the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation
- 2.4 Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

- 3.2 Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

- 4.1 Children develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity.
- 4.2 Children develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating

Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

- 5.1 Children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes

Introductory phase

5 minutes

We recommend keeping a record of the children's participation in and understanding of the activities and discussions in this lesson with a floor book or log book. This can be used to record children's voices, reactions and preferences throughout the session as well as any continuous learning opportunities and can be used as a wall display to start off your project when combined with photos taken throughout the day.

Teacher note: You will be required to complete the two steps below prior to this activity.

1. Print out and laminate several bear paw print cards and place them around the preschool.
2. Print or handwrite a letter from Lead Ted Jnr, using the suggested text or write your own. Seal the letter in an envelope addressed to the children.

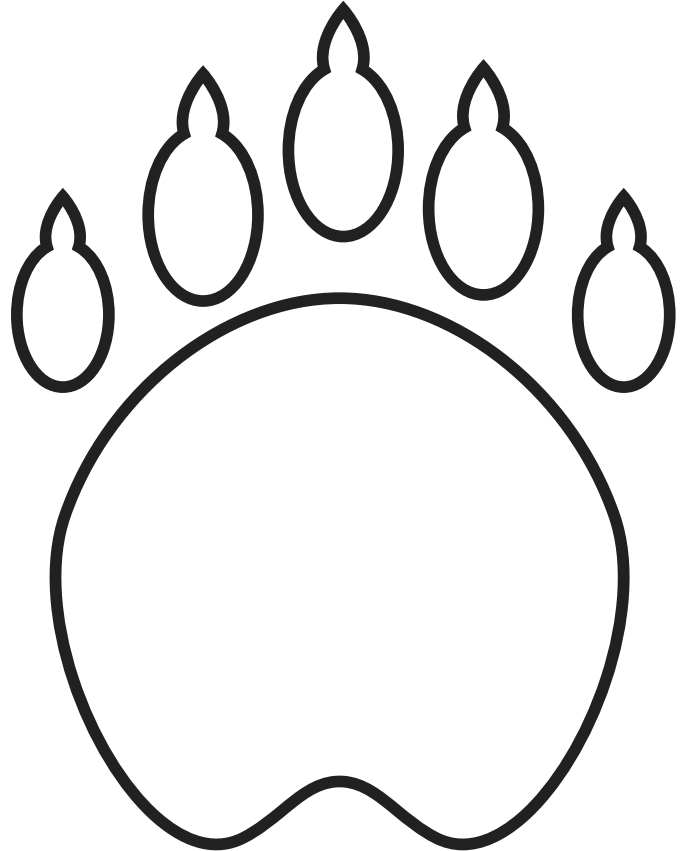
Hello children!

It's Lead Ted Jnr here. I've spent some time exploring your preschool. I wonder if you can find clues to see where I've been playing? Everyone will need to work together to look carefully for my paw prints, follow them to find out exactly where I've been. I wonder if you can guess my favourite place to play?

Your friend,
Lead Ted Jnr

3. Gather the children together and show them the envelope, explain that it is addressed to them.

4. Ask the children to guess who the letter might be from.
5. Select one child to open the envelope. Reveal that it is from Lead Ted Jnr and read it to the children.
6. Explain that you are going to go on a treasure hunt around the preschool in groups to look out for bear paw prints. These will tell us where Lead Ted Jr has been playing.



Supporting activities

Set up a range of areas both inside and outside with provocations for children to explore this topic, as well as areas that correspond to children's current and ongoing interests. We suggest the following areas:

Exploratory development – Observe the children playing and following their own interests outside and the areas they choose to play in. Do they choose LeadSmart areas? Use this as an opportunity to reinforce LeadSmart learning, such as covering the sandpit when we have finished playing, wiping our feet or taking off our shoes when we come indoors and washing our hands.



Sensory development - Provide children with an 'I spy' tub filled with coloured pom poms, some with glitter and some without, amongst other material such as foam peanuts or shredded paper. Encourage the children to sort the pom poms they find in to two containers; with glitter (lead dust) and without glitter. Encourage talk about the relationship between lead dust and our bodies.

Construction – Provide Lego blocks or other construction materials for children to create models of their favourite areas to play at preschool and home. Talk about their favourite areas and what they like to do in each. Examine where each area is located and discuss the LeadSmart messages for each area, such as washing our hands when we come inside or just before lunch, not eating our lunch directly off the floor, not playing on open dirt areas, etc.

Creative development – Set up a music station where children can listen to and play the handwashing song. Encourage them to dance and sing along! Provide props such as a bowls, empty soap bottle and towels, so they can role play each stage of the handwashing process. Encourage talk about why and when we should wash our hands.

Literacy development – Prepare the children in small groups for a treasure hunt around the preschool. Ensure children wear their hats to explore outside. Encourage the children to spot the bear paw prints in different areas. Once a paw print has been spotted, gather around the area and discuss what they children think Lead Ted Jnr would have been doing there. Relate the children's ideas to the key LeadSmart messages, e.g. washing his hands before and after eating or playing outside. See below for some suggested areas for investigation and accompanying teaching points.

Teacher note: When preparing this activity, ensure bear paw prints are attached in a way children cannot pull them off or in places that are out of children's reach!

Suggested indoor areas for investigation:

| Indoor area | Lead Ted Jnr explanation | Teaching points |
|-------------|---|--|
| Sink | Lead Ted Jnr used the sink to wash his hands. | Washing your hands is the best way to keep lead out of your body and help protect you from lead harm. You should always wash your hands before eating, after playing outside and after touching your pets. |

Suggested outdoor areas for investigation:

| Outside area | Lead Ted Jnr explanation | Teaching points |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| Sand pit | Lead Ted Jnr played in the sand pit. | Sand pits are a LeadSmart place to play if they are covered when not in use. |
| Grass | Lead Ted Jnr played on the grass. | Grass or covered surfaces are LeadSmart places to play. Avoid playing in bare soil and dirt. |
| Bench seat | Lead Ted Jnr ate his food while sitting on the seat. | When eating, sit on a seat or a clean blanket, not in bare dirt or on the ground, so you don't get lead in your food or on your hands. |
| Play equipment | This is Lead Ted Jnr's favourite place to play. (place lots of paw prints in this area to indicate it as Lead Ted Jnr's favourite place to play) | Outdoor toys and equipment might have lead on them. You should always wash your hands after playing outside or with things like balls, bikes, slides and trucks. Avoid putting your hands in or near your mouth. |
| Doormat | Lead Ted Jnr wiped his shoes on the doormat before coming inside. | If you can't take your shoes off before going inside, wipe them on a doormat to get all of the dust and soil off them. |

Closing phase

5 minutes

1. Explain that just like Lead Ted Jnr, we need to remember to be LeadSmart when at preschool.
2. Display the Spot the Difference activity on the IWB.
3. Explain to the children that the pair of pictures are similar but with one big difference, one shows a LeadSmart picture and the other shows a lead harm picture! Explain that you need the children's help to spot the LeadSmart picture.
4. Indicate the first pair of pictures. Ask the children what they can see. Discuss the difference between the pictures and decide, with the children, which one is the LeadSmart picture and why.
5. Repeat Step 4 with the next two pairs of pictures.
6. Reinforce that remembering these LeadSmart strategies can keep us healthy and safe from lead harm.



Questions for sustained shared thinking

Prompts for shared conversations, which can be extended or developed:

- Where are the LeadSmart play areas in our preschool?
- What do we need to do after we finish playing?
- Why do we wipe our shoes on the doormat before coming inside?
- How can we be more LeadSmart at preschool?

Spot the difference

Which picture shows Lead Ted Jnr making LeadSmart choices?
Put a tick in the correct box.

