

KCCC Goes Global Australia meets Denmark

It is not every day that you connect with and collaborate with peers in a different country and have the opportunity to learn and share information across the globe. That is exactly what we are doing through our Staff Hosting program.

Hayley (Tea Tree room) arrived in Copenhagen on the 14 October and the children and educators at Frederiksberg, Copenhagen have the opportunity to experience what it is like to connect with our service across the globe.

They shall be sharing skills, ideas, best practice between our services with children and staff and developing and improving practice and relationships to enhance our programs. This can only broaden the children and staff's local-to-global perspective, build on new initiatives and ideas as well as enhance communication between global cities to cultivate the next generation of global citizens.

Please go to our KCCCgoesglobal webpage and/or read these upcoming information sheets for updates on this program.

Sigi Hyett, General Manager

Update from Hayley – Issue 1

After a long journey, I finally made it to Copenhagen, Denmark. I was met by Anne Sofie at the airport and taken to my new residence for the next 8 weeks. I have been lucky enough to live with a family from the forest kindergarten. Philip, Katrine, Vilfred and Anger have opened their home for me whilst living in Denmark.

I got to explore a little of Copenhagen the first two days of being here, all whilst trying to get on Denmark time and stay awake past 5pm! Whilst everyone back home may be enjoying the heat wave, the weather today was a clear 12 degrees which made it interesting to explore on foot.

What an amazing few days it has been. For Forest Kindergarten we take a bus out each morning at 8:30, taking 25 minutes to arrive at the forest. The forest kindergarten has a house on the land that is used for indoor activities and can accommodate for all 37 children.

The outdoor environment is literally, a forest. The autumn season ensures the forest is a gorgeous landscape for the children to enjoy. It is covered in trees and bushes and sticks and leaves, with ditches throughout and beautiful natural spaces for the children to explore and use through their play and learning. There are no swings, climbing equipment, bikes etc. The children spend hours in the forest, using their imaginations, digging, hiding, running, climbing, picking seeds off plants etc. (This supports children to develop a sense of place, identity and connection to the land- Practice Principle- Equity and Diversity- VEYLDF)

The children are really trying to help me learn Danish. You've never quite seen a look of exhaustion than the look on a five year olds face as he tries to teach you words in Danish that you just can't seem to pronounce properly! Although the language barrier is difficult, there are some things like giving a high 5 or a thumbs up which is universal. In the afternoon we spent some time in the centre outdoor environment, with all of the children from the service being there also.







Follow Hayley's Journey On Our Blog

Sharing our resources and knowledge: What learning is happening from this?

Hayley has been sharing what the children here at KCCC have been learning and has been able to adapt this to work with the children in Denmark.

"Today we used the iPad to utilise the Danish/ English app we had been using in the tea tree kinder room. It was amazing listening to three year olds repeating the English translations of Danish words. There was lots of laughter whilst using it. It's a helpful resource to try and teach the children English, along with teaching myself Danish to be able to communicate more effectively with the children."

As we know and are very proud of, our sustainability practices here at KCCC are something worth sharing! Hayley is hoping to share some of the way in which we integrated this into the programs at KCCC and the importance behind providing children with the opportunity to learn about human impact on the environment. (Outcome 2: Community. Children develop an awareness of the impact of human activity on environments and the interdependence of living things, VEYLDF).



Some extracts from the blog.....

"Although the weather can get quite cold and wet in the forest, all the children are well equipped, all having a set of 'working' clothes to be used for when outside in the forest, which are warm and waterproof. "

"You've never quite seen a look of exhaustion than the look on a five year olds face as he tries to teach you words in Danish that you just can't seem to pronounce properly!"

"The forest kindergarten program caters for children from two years and ten months to six years old. Within the group, you can see quite quickly how effectively the varied age group works, with the older children leading by example and taking on a sense of responsibility to the younger children."

