

Program three - The adventures of Gracie

In program three, each Kindergarten participating in the Creek Neighbours online program will receive a Gracie toy. Gracie is a Graceful Tree Frog and is one of Brisbane City Council's faunal mascots. Kindergarten teachers can decide how they wish to incorporate Gracie into the program. All resources can be found in the resources section of this lesson on the Creek Neighbours online program page.

The toy was created with the intention of children being able to take turns borrowing Gracie to take home to their family, thereby extending the learning they are doing at Kindy to home. Some Centres may wish to keep the Gracie toy on campus and use her for group visits to the creek.

Learning outcomes

Learning Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

- 1.4 Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect.

Learning 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.
- 2.3 Children become aware of fairness.
- 2.4 Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment.

Learning Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

- 5.1 Children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes.
- 5.2 Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts.
- 5.3 Children express ideas and make meaning using a range of media.

Gracie toy instructions

Teachers are encouraged to complete the following at their choosing:

1. Introduce Gracie by downloading the introductory letter and reading it to your students.

Required resources:

- The adventures of Gracie: Introductory Letter (word document)



2. Take Gracie with you on your class visit/s to the creek.
3. Organise a roster whereby each child takes Gracie home with them for one night/weekend. During this home visit, children can use Gracie to educate their parents and siblings about the importance of healthy creeks and about the 3 things frogs need to survive (clean water, food, shelter).
4. Prepare a take-home kit which includes Gracie and the Parent Instruction Letters. You may also like to include books about frogs and water and even a simple activity that children can complete with their parents (i.e. frog life cycle).

Required resources:

- The adventures of Gracie: Parents and carers introduction letter (word document)
5. Encourage children to share stories and photos of Gracie's home stay and creek visits with their classmates. Perhaps make up a book entitled Gracie's Adventures.

