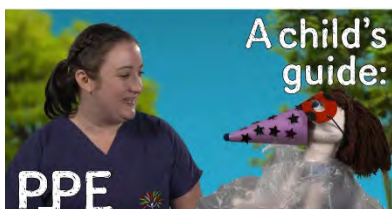


PARISH LIFE IN ISO

A message from our Tiny Ts Playgroup organisers Antarcia and Olivia: *“We hope you’re doing ok through these Stage 4 restrictions. We’ve been here before but this time we could be feeling a range of new emotions, including missing our lovely playgroup catch ups! As we near the end of this isolation it might feel familiar but different too and you are probably running out of ideas to keep the little ones busy. So we thought we’d share a range of resources provided by Playgroup Victoria, some for babies and children, and some just for you.”*

A new world of masks and germs For young children, masks can seem a bit odd.

[Here is a video](#) from the Royal Childrens Hospital to help explain what it’s all about.



If you need to take a child for COVID-19 testing, you can [watch this video](#) to help them understand what to expect.

Storm makers The sounds of wild weather are all around us at this time of year. Snuggle up on a rug together and create your own soundscape with this [Incinerator Gallery session](#). It was created for babies and carers but is perfect for toddlers too. *Tip: Before you begin, grab some household items to make tapping sounds, balls to drop for hail and maybe a branch of leaves to ‘swish’ like the win*

Play guide Unpredictable Spring weather can still mean many days of indoor play. The ultimate list of Winter play ideas is in an [activity guide from Playgroup Victoria](#). Take a look at their baking, craft, songs and stories.

Whatever the weather Looking outside, it can seem a bit off-putting to venture out to play. The extra clothes, the wind, the heavy sky. However it can be a lovely way to develop your inner meteorologist! [Check out this short video](#) from Raising Children to find out more.

Playgroup, live in your living room Join live, half-hour sessions at 10am on Tuesdays and Fridays (repeat session) with Playgroup

Victoria. Bookings are essential, and you [can do that here](#) (up to 8am on the day).

Catch up on library story time In case you missed the live sessions, Moonee Valley Library is hosting story time on Facebook [click here to access videos](#), scroll down to find age-appropriate session for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers.

Pandemic Play, a record for the future what play have you and your children been enjoying at home? If you have any activities or observations to share, [this project](#) is run by Australian folklore and play researchers.

Acts of Kindness workshops Moonee Valley Council is running free workshops that anyone in our community can attend. Sessions coming up include photography and Kokedama making. To find out more and register [click here](#).

Working from home as a new parent The layers of challenges for parents and carers during this time can mean some support is a good idea. Take a look at [PANDA's checklist and resources](#) for some ideas and next steps.

[The Raising Children](#) site has a comprehensive COVID19 guide and is a great resource for families. The articles, videos and interactive resources are tailored to different ages and stages, – and help you to look after yourself as a parent too.



Hope these tips are useful and here's hoping we can all get together again, at least in 2021!

Stories, reflections, recipes, ideas, videos or photos to share? We'd love to hear what you've been up to in ISO. Email jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au to contribute to Parish Life in IS