



# 50 DAYS OF BLUEY! PART 2

Welcome to 50 Days of Bluey Activity Guides. These guides are not necessarily meant to replace distance learning work being sent home by your school. Instead they are ideas for play-based learning that can be used to complement school work, during the holidays, weekends, or by young non-school aged children.

My kids are 7 and 4 and I'm not sure who loves Bluey more, me or them. As parents, Bluey teaches us about the importance of play, about respecting and having empathy for our kids and reflects on the wonders of childhood. And through these activity guides, Bluey can teach you and your children so much more!

Each episode contains photos and a list of the activities my own kids have done, as well as a list of learning areas covered. But you can come up with your own ideas to tie into an episode's theme and find more suggestions and links for resources on my website:

[www.sydneycreativeplay.com/bluey](http://www.sydneycreativeplay.com/bluey)

There are links there as well for my Facebook page, Instragram account and a Facebook group for fellow parents to join in and share their photos and ideas.

I hope you enjoy!

Sharon Baldwin  
Sydney Creative Playworker







# Hammerbarn

## Activities

- We set up our garage as a "Hammerbarn" shop and gave the items pricetags. Mr. 4 filled his trolley and Ms. 7 had to calculate his totals.
- The kids helped make mini pizzas for lunch and did some drawings in their "inventions notebook".
- Later I set up a messy play activity with coloured ice cubes and a variety of tools for smashing them. We took some slow-mo videos of this.
- Then we did some "hammer painting" with paint blobs + a hammer. The kids used paint scrapers too with very cool results.
- They then had a spray bottle fight in the yard and had baths.
- After getting cleaned up I found some defunct electronics, grabbed the screwdriver set and let Ms. 7 tinker around, taking things apart and trying to figure out how they worked.

## Learning Areas

- Creative arts ☒
- Fine motor skills ☒
- Geography
- Gross motor skills ☒
- History
- Literacy ☒
- Nature
- Numeracy ☒
- Practical life skills ☒
- Pretend play ☒
- Research skills
- Science/engineering ☒
- World culture
- Writing/grammar





# Fairies

## Activities

- The kids wanted to act out the very silly plot of "Fairies" so we started by gathering flowers, stones and leaves to make a "fairy circle" in the yard. We kept getting stuck dancing in it!
- We attempted a bit of Irish jigging and the kids coloured in some fairy colouring pages.
- During lunch we watched some videos about the origins of fairy legends and learned about mushroom fairy circles.
- We set out on walk with two goals: 1) find and identify various mushrooms using an app and 2) collect materials to make a fairy garden.
- We created a lovely little fairy garden for the yard, complete with clay toadstools.
- We watched a few science videos about mushrooms and fungus and then capped the day off reading fairy tales.

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- Creative arts ☒
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- Geography
- Gross motor skills ☒
- History ☒
- Literacy ☒
- Nature ☒
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- Pretend play ☒
- Research skills
- Science/engineering
- World culture ☒
- Writing/grammar





# Grannies

## Activities

- Our rather silly game of "Grannies" took up a good chunk of the morning.
- Afterwards Ms. 7 came up with a list of questions to interview her Nana via Skype.
- We read some biographies from the book "Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls" and Ms. 7 wrote up a biography about her Nana.
- Nana also sent us some photos from when she was a little girl which made for some good discussions around how things have changed since then.
- We needed a portrait to go with it so the kids worked on painting watercolour portraits of family members. Ms. 7 presented the project to the family when it was complete.
- We read some books about grandparents such as "How to Train a Grandpa".

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- World culture
- Writing/grammar ☒





# Trains

## Activities

- We transformed a large cardboard box into a train using tape, patty pans, and a paper towel roll and drew some passengers in the windows.
- The kids took turns pushing each other around for a little exercise. They ended up making different train stops (like the vet's office) and signs for each.
- In the afternoon we went on some virtual train rides using YouTube videos. We went through Japan, Norway and Disney World (in the US). We watched a few videos about sights to see and different cultures in each place and Ms. 7 had to find them in the atlas.
- I then gave Ms. 7 an assignment to use Canva on my computer to create a travel brochure for one of the places we learned about.
- During this, Mr. 4 played with his toy train set.

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# Stumpfest

## Activities

- We were lucky enough to have several tree stumps nearby to choose from to decorate (with chalk and flowers).
- Then we took out the axe and watched a video about safely chopping wood. The kids had a go but the axe was too heavy so I did more of a demonstration.
- We then went out on a bush walk to identify trees and do some crayon rubbings of the bark.
- Afterwards we set up a nail/beauty salon and the kids loved doing my nails and makeup. We also printed out some handprints with fingernails to paint.
- After scrubbing off my clown face, we read "The Lorax" and I gave Ms 7 an assignment to write a letter to The Once-ler, persuading him not to cut down so many trees.

## Learning Areas

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- Nature ☒
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- Pretend play ☒
- Research skills ☒
- Science/engineering ☐
- World culture ☐
- Writing/grammar ☒





# Takeaway

## Activities

- We started by making menus and the kids engaged in some cafe pretend play.
- The kids made lunch - rather than spring rolls we opted for healthier rice paper rolls. They chopped veggies and assembled their rolls.
- We attempted (not wholly successfully) to make some paper fortune cookies and then watched videos to learn some Chinese vocabulary words.
- Later we watched videos on Chinese culture and history. Ms 7 had to write a list of places we learned about in China and then make a powerpoint presentation about it. She opted for the Great Wall of China.
- After all that research it was time to head outside for a "shower" aka running around the yard and spraying each other with the hose.

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# Keepy Uppy

## Activities

- The kids played lots of variations of "keepy uppy" - we used plates as tennis rackets, straws to blow the balloons. A great way to get exercise indoors on a rainy day.
- We watched some videos about how helium makes balloons float and how many it would take to lift a person. Then we did some science experiments of our own.
- First we made a balloon zip line and sent balloons zooming through the lounge room.
- Next we talked about ways to inflate a balloon without blowing into it and we blew one up with bicarb + vinegar and then using the soda stream!
- We also spent a lot of time looking at the effects of balloons when released outdoors, particularly on wildlife. Ms 7 wrote a letter to someone overseeing a (fictional) event, persuading them not to release balloons.

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# Asparagus

## Activities

- Rather than playing with our food, we made "magic asparagus wands" by gluing small pinecones to sticks and painting them green.
- The kids played with them for ages, turning each other into various animals. We played animal charades as well.
- Later the kids helped me make a side dish for dinner: asparagus wrapped in fillo pastry. (They tried it, but still weren't sold on the veggie!)
- That might be because earlier in the day we'd watched a video about the science of why asparagus makes your wee smell funny.
- And that of course led us down a rabbit hole of science videos about bodily functions, like "why do we fart?" Hey, whatever gets them curious about the world, right?

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# Kids

## Activities

- We turned our dining room into a grocery shop using items from our cupboard and putting price stickers on them. We made some signs as well to advertise "specials".
- The kids took turns as shoppers and cashiers. They used play money to pay for their purchases and Ms 7 had to tally up their receipts. They ended up playing this game for ages! But we did sneak in a few other activities.
- We used our stockpile of toilet paper to play a silly game of "TP Bowling". Mr 4 got really into making TP towers and worked on his counting skills building them up and knocking them down.
- Later we read some related books such as "Teddy Bears Go Shopping".

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# Neighbours

## Activities

- We tried playing a game of "neighbours" in the lounge room, but ran into a lot of neighbourly disputes... as you do.
- We switched gears by writing a list of kind things we could do for our neighbours while maintaining social distancing.
- First the kids wanted to bake something. We made muffins and delivered them to Mr 4's preschool teachers down the road.
- After lunch, Ms 7 had a Skype session with a friend/neighbour. I tried to make a "book club" happen but they preferred playing Pictionary.
- The kids wanted to paint some stones to leave around for people to find but we struggled to find smooth ones so instead we painted some wood slices as Easter eggs to hide in the neighbouring reserve.
- Lastly we went on a neighbourhood scavenger hunt in the surrounding blocks.

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