

One More Story

Educator notes and curriculum links, with Haydan Hawkins, known as Mr H

A One More Story session is a calm, low stimulation storytime. Original picture books are read aloud, gentle songs are sung live on guitar, and Gerry the giraffe visits, all paced to settle a group rather than excite it. Below is how a session supports your learning frameworks, so you can see the value at a glance. The through line is wellbeing and gentle self regulation, the calm that helps young children listen, feel safe, and take part.

For school groups, the Australian Curriculum

English. Reading aloud and responding to stories supports the Literature and Literacy strands, listening and comprehension, oral language, and building a love of books. Children notice how a story works, how it builds and settles, and share what they think and feel about it.

General capabilities. The session leans most into Personal and Social Capability, self awareness and self management, including naming feelings and settling the body, and social awareness through stories of sharing and friendship. With a Little Imagination also supports Critical and Creative Thinking.

For kindergartens and early learning, the Early Years Learning Framework

Outcome 3, wellbeing. The calm pace and gentle close help children feel safe and settled, and model quiet self regulation.

Outcome 5, effective communicators. Listening to stories and songs, following a narrative, and engaging with language and rhythm.

Outcomes 1, 2 and 4. A sense of identity and security, connecting with others through stories of sharing and kindness, and curiosity and imagination as confident, involved learners.

The four books and their themes

Book	Gentle theme	Links most to
The Sharing Surprise	Sharing and kindness	EYLF Outcome 2, and Personal and Social Capability, social awareness
With a Little Imagination	Imagination and play	EYLF Outcome 4, and Critical and Creative Thinking
The Slow Hello	Patience and taking your time	EYLF Outcome 3, and self management
Listen For It	Listening and attention	EYLF Outcome 5, and English, listening and comprehension

A note on the calm. One More Story is built to be low stimulation by design. In a busy day, a settled, unhurried session gives children a chance to regulate, listen and simply be, which is exactly the wellbeing space schools and centres are being asked to hold.

Haydan Hawkins, One More Story

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