

VILLAGE BUILDERS
COMMUNITY CHANGEMAKERS

Brooklyn & Mooney Playgroup

Playgroup suburb

**Brooklyn/
Mooney Mooney**

Volunteer Name

Vidette

Venue type

- Community Centre
- Church
- Park
- School
- Preschool
- Other

How many playgroups do you run each week? One per week.

Average attendance

Adults: 6 **Children:** 8

How many years has your playgroup been operating? 20 or more.

How many years have you been leading your playgroup? 6 years.

How do you advertise your playgroup? Posters & social media.

What makes a good playgroup thrive? Lots of nice families attending regularly.

What creative and fun activities do you do at your playgroup?

Gardening in our community gardening – planting seeds, seedlings and bulbs and harvesting produce for cooking and snacking. Making mini pizzas using ingredients from the community garden.

Making fruit salad – everyone brings a piece and kids help depending on their age – peeling, chopping, mixing etc. Making play dough in different colours. Drink bottle rocket-ships and bi-carb soda volcanoes in science week. Tea party with hot (warm) chocolates and cakes. Chalk drawing outside. Mud kitchen. Waterplay. Cubbyhouse with toy kitchen. Rock painting. Paper recycling, printing and craft into a collage which was in a local art exhibition. Building a city out of giant cardboard boxes. Music shakers with rice/ beans/ pasta and toilet rolls. Building bamboo boats and sailing them down the river. Christmas craft – cookies, cards and tree decorations. Easter egg hunt. Local excursions.

Please share with us the impact of playgroups: We are geographically isolated and often our Playgroup is the first place where families new to

the area get to make new friendships and build a support network. Mothers groups are becoming less common and often our Playgroup is the first space where mothers, and other carers, have the opportunity to discuss some of the challenges that come with parenting babies and small children. Sometimes we exchange practical parenting tips and sometimes all we can do is give a sympathetic nod to the mum who's suffering through sleep deprivation, knowing that we've all been there. Our Playgroup is where people come to find their new "village" when they're living far away from family and friends.

Describe your playgroup in 3 words? Small, friendly, fun.

MAP NSW



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