

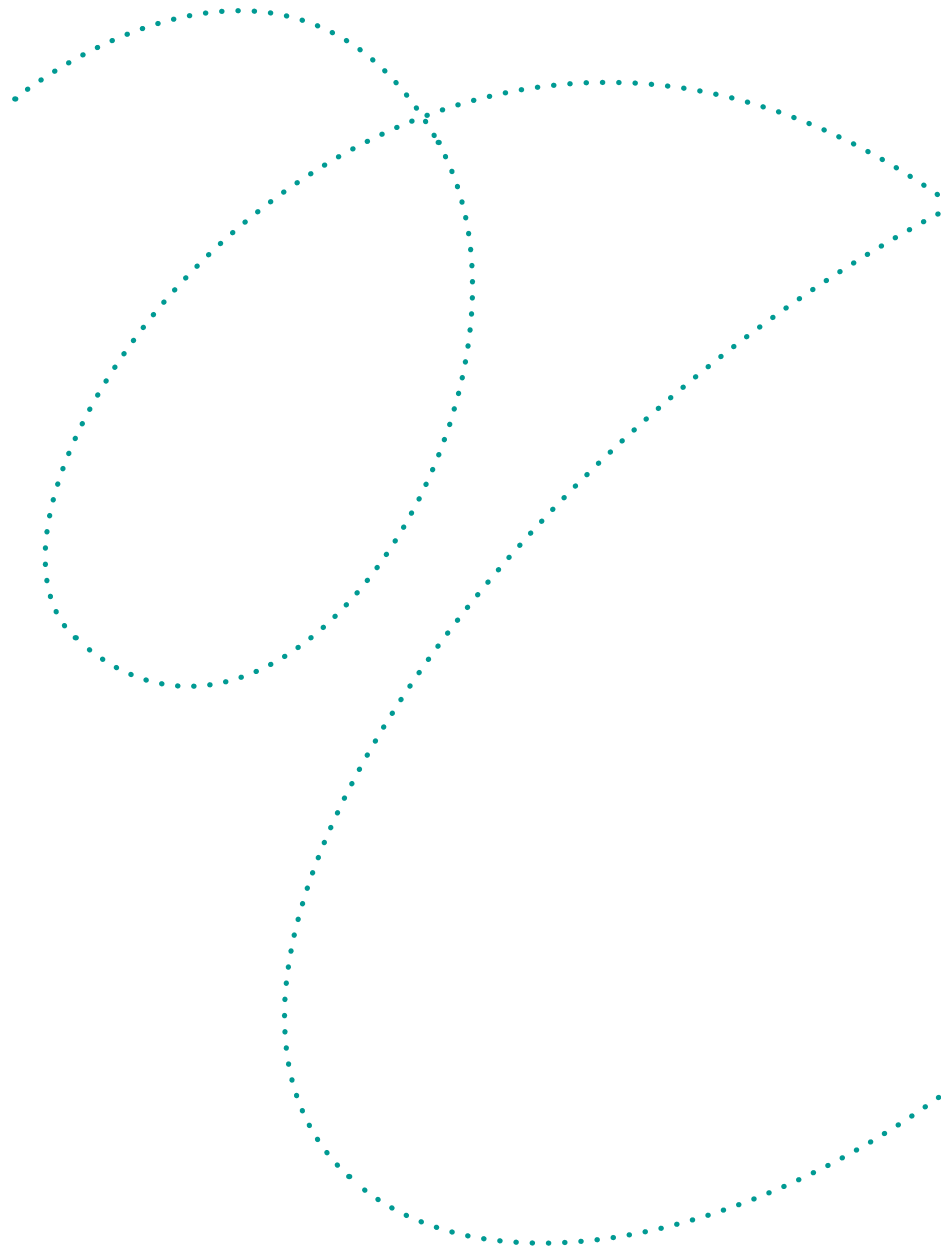
A young boy with dark hair and red-rimmed glasses is focused on playing with colorful LEGO bricks. He is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt with a circular logo on the chest. The background is blurred, showing other children and colorful elements, suggesting a classroom or play area. The text 'ROBINVALE' is in a teal box at the top left, and 'Voice of Children' is written in large white letters at the bottom left.

ROBINVALE

Voice of
Children

Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge the children who took part in this project and their families for allowing the research to take place. Special thanks to the Early Learning Centre, Educational Leader, Teachers and Educators at Robinvale Preschool who enabled this project to take place, and to Bandits and Co for capturing the project through photography and film.



About this book

This book captures images and quotes from children who participated in the Voice of Children project.

The Voice of Children Project captures the perspectives and insights of young children, aged three to five years old, who attend early learning centres located on Our Place sites.

Informed by a comprehensive literature review of studies conducted in Australia and overseas, the project seeks

to understand children's experiences, hopes, dreams and aspirations through child-led interviews. Children's experiences in their early learning environment, their sense of self and their expectations for their future are explored.

The Voice of Children Project is a collaboration between Our Place and Monash University's Health and Social Care Unit, conducted in 2022 and 2023.



Engagement with kinder program

“I was playing on the bike; did you see me going fast? I did drop the bike off over there, in the bike park.”

“I wanted to play in the sandpit, and that’s all I did.”

“I come to kinder, so many times.”

“Do some drawing.”

“Jumping in the muddy puddle and jumping in the sand. It’s not rainy, so no muddy puddle today.”

Expectations for the future



“I want to make windows when I grow up. My dad makes windows.”

“I want to cook in the kitchen, in my house.”

“I want to be a doctor that look after people.”

“I want to be a cooker and a worker, with daddy, in a vineyard.”

“Astronaut! Astronauts fly in space, in rocket!”





Children's interests

Puzzles! Any puzzles. I like all the puzzles. I got Elsa puzzle at home.”

I like going on the big bikes. Ride around very fast!”

I love to dig! Jump. I love to play, everything!”

Building makes me happy, building monster trucks.”

I love to play in my cubby.”

I like to do puzzles and play on the swing.”

Children's favourite colours

“I like bright yellow, that’s a great colour.”

“Purple and pink, wait, she has my favourite colour shirt!”

“My favourite colour is pink; I got my pink t-shirt here.”

“Yellow, green, blue, and red, and pink. I like them.”

“Red on the rainbow, yellow on the rainbow, orange on the rainbow, green on the rainbow, blue on the rainbow, and a little pink.”





Favorite foods

“My favourite food is fried rice, pastas, and bananas. And I like cucumber, yogurt, and everything!”

“Scrambled eggs. You just crack it and mix it.”

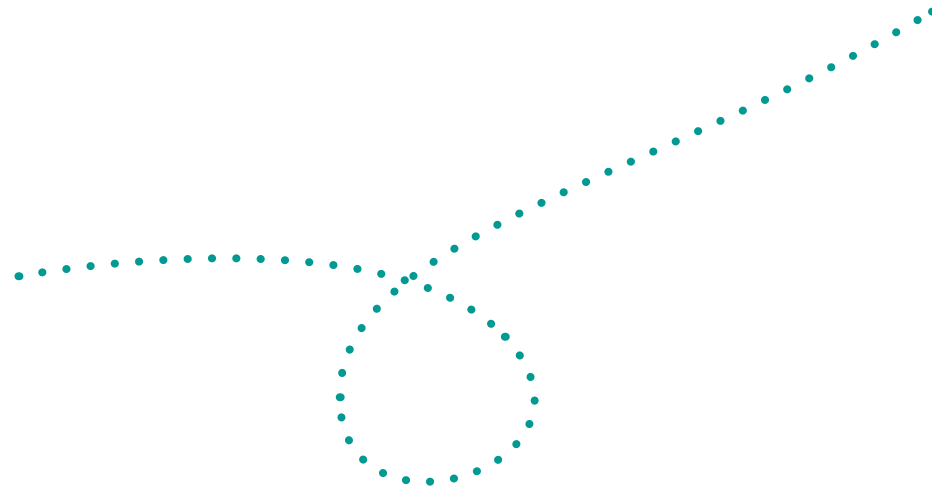
“Watermelon and rock melon. I like pastas.”

“Orange, and apples, and nuggets. Croissants, cheese, I like it a bit hot and a bit cold.”

“Banana cakes, they are my favourite. Tonnes of bananas.”

“Toast, noodles, steak on the bone, it has sauce on the top, barbecue sauce. It’s so yummy!”

The **Voice of Children Project** is part of Our Place's research and evaluation work. Our Place supports the education, health and development of children and families in the Robinvale community. We listen to and respond to the needs of the local community and help schools to be the central place for life-long learning and support services. Our Place has a ten-year commitment to the Robinvale community.







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