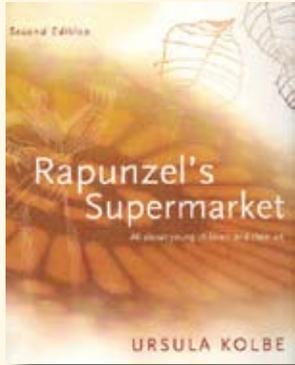


Resource reviews

By Angela Owens and Phillip Rowell

Rapunzel's Supermarket



Ursula Kolbe's book is an inspiring and practical resource which discusses the importance of fostering children's imagination and creativity.

Rather than focusing on an end product, Kolbe suggests that children have a natural need and

desire to create images which represent how they perceive themselves and the world around them. It is the role of adults to nurture this exploration and to provide opportunities which encourage children to express their ideas and feelings without being judged by others.

Each chapter focuses on particular aspects of art, from discovering the power of texture, colour and the use of different types of mediums, to exploring how children develop the range of skills to use a variety of media to express what they see, think and feel. There are suggestions throughout the book on ways that adults can support, guide and challenge children across a range of creative experiences.

Insightful images, examples of artwork, recipes and poems are included throughout the book, which is both engaging and informative.

In this second edition of *Rapunzel's Supermarket* Kolbe has included an additional chapter that expands upon many of the ideas and thoughts expressed throughout the resource. The further reading list at the end of the book has also been revised from the first edition. Appropriate for child care professionals working with children up to school age, the final chapter will be of particular interest as the author explores issues such as displaying and documenting children's artwork, the use of colouring books and whether adults should draw for children ■

Kolbe, U. (2007). *Rapunzel's Supermarket: All about young children and their art* (2nd ed.). NSW: Peppinot Press.

Sophie

*What happens when you get old?
Where do you go when you die?
Will I see you again?*

There are many circumstances that can provoke a child's curiosity or concern about death. These may include relatively common occurrences such as seeing an animal that has been killed on the road or witnessing media coverage of a natural disaster. At other times, it may be due to the death of a family member, pet, friend or carer that a child initiates a conversation about death and feelings of loss.

Child care professionals can sometimes struggle to find ways to talk about grief and sadness with children without feeling sad themselves or being concerned about how the conversation may affect a child's wellbeing.

In the children's book *Sophie*, author Mem Fox focuses on death as part of the life cycle that involves birth, growing up, becoming older and dying. The story spans the lives of two characters, Sophie and her Grandpa and it explores their special bond. As Sophie grows up and gradually becomes more independent, we see her beloved Grandfather grow older and frailer. The story openly acknowledges the feelings of grief and loss that follow Grandpa's death, and concludes with the celebration of new life with the birth of Sophie's first child.

Using simple, repetitive language and colourful, animated illustrations, *Sophie* may assist child care professionals to support young children to express, understand and cope with feelings of grief and loss.

The original edition of *Sophie* was published in 1994, with illustrations by Craig Smith. In 1989 the book was re-released with illustrations by Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson. The text in this latest edition has also been amended slightly by the author, Mem Fox ■

Fox, M. (1989). *Sophie*. Orlando: Voyager Books Harcourt Inc.

Safeguarding Children Program



Investing in child-safe environments supports children and young people to learn and play safely, free from abuse, harm or neglect. Every organisation that comes into contact with children in their day to day operations and programs has an obligation to:

- develop policies and practices which focus on child protection practices;
- communicate with families and the community about the importance of child-safe settings; and
- promote the recruitment and screening of trustworthy adults in paid employment or volunteer positions.

To assist in the prevention of child abuse, the Australian Council for Children and Youth Organisations (ACCYO) has developed the *Safeguarding Children Program*.

The *Program* outlines a comprehensive step by step process through which organisations can create safe environments for children and young people. Experts from around Australia have been consulted on its content.

Organisations participating successfully in the *Program* are awarded a certificate of accreditation by ACCYO, which is valid for 3 years. The *Program* includes requirements for organisations to:

- undertake Safeguarding Children Training;
- develop policies, procedures and practices in line with the seven *Safeguarding Children Program* Standards;
- promote an organisational culture which protects children and young people from the danger of abuse and harm; and
- identify risks to children and young people and create strategies to improve the management of these risks.

The resource includes details regarding legislative requirements, contact information for state and territory government departments, templates for checklists/audits and links to other relevant agencies. The *Safeguarding Children Program* folder may assist child care services that are developing or reviewing their recruitment and child protection policies and practices ■

For further information about the Safeguarding Children's Program, contact ACCYO by telephone 1800 724 754 or visit their website (www.accyo.org.au).

Child and Youth Health website (www.cyh.com)



This is the website of South Australia's Children, Youth and Women's Health Service. This organisation

promotes the health, development and wellbeing of children, young people and families.

This website offers a vast range of easy to access information about health, safety, learning, development and current issues for children and young people aged from birth up to 24 years. The website is divided into four sections:

- Parenting and Child Health (for parents and carers)

- Kids Health (for children aged 6-12)
- Teen Health (for young people aged 12-17)
- Young Adult Health (for young adults aged 17-24).

Each section caters specifically to its target audience, although parents and carers of children and young people will also find the information in each section to be useful. Information can be accessed by: browsing the 'Health Topics' by category; using the 'Search Topics' facility or by browsing alphabetically. Each section also includes feature topics, a 'What's New' area and a tip of the week.

Child care professionals will find this website useful for researching a range of issues related to the care and education of both younger and older children. They can also support families and children who are experiencing health and safety or development issues by referring them to the relevant areas of the website ■