

HIPPY Graduations 2020

HIPPY Katherine

Anglicare NT

Graduation for HIPPY Katherine was celebrated at the local pool. HIPPY Coordinator Heather Dingle shared a story about the HIPPY graduation and the lasting impact HIPPY has for her and her son Lachlan.

A fabulous time was had at the HIPPY graduation in Katherine. It was HOT HOT HOT, so what better place than the pool to cool off. Families started the afternoon with the kids painting a shirt or a library bag and the adults painting a calico shopping bag. Once the art and craft activities were done it was off to the pool for some games in the water. Empty plastic bottles filled with water camouflage unbelievably well on the bottom of the pool and this was a challenge for many to find them. Despite the heat it was a great celebration of a two-year achievement!



Lachlan is a HIPPY graduate from 2014 who is about to enter his first year of high school next year. Every year, Lach is actively involved in planning, running and supporting HIPPY graduations in Katherine. He comes up with wonderful engaging activities and games and is very gentle and nurturing with all the HIPPY kids. He still comes into the HIPPY office in the afternoons and will go through HIPPY packs looking for activities to entertain himself. Completing HIPPY with Lachlan helped me to connect with him and really work out what kind of learner he was. Throughout his journey through primary school this has helped me as a parent develop strategies to help support his learning journey.

As I head towards 10 years of delivering HIPPY to this community I can really look back and see how many lives it has benefitted along the way, mine included. The HIPPY model is so wonderful and I am so thankful to have had this kind of job that allows us to build such strong foundations and learning for our future generations. HIPPY builds family connections with education, community and each other. I am a HIPPY success story too!