Planning Report

Student Name:

Student ID:

University Name:

Year:

Executive Summary

Excursion is a crucial activity for boosting the scientific knowledge of students easily. They can increase their academic concepts by visualising historical objects. Their interest in learning will also be promoted after implementing this strategy. Hence, an excursion to the Australian Museum will be held in this report. A detailed overview of the Australian Museum Sydney has been reflected on in detail. The rationale for selecting this place has been highlighted along with the facilities of this institution. Pedagogies and education theories have been enlightened in this study with special references from the visit. Finally, this report has highlighted the links of curriculum and philosophy with the visit in detail.

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1. Introduction

The main aim of this report is to assess the relevance of science curricula in early childhood education. Australian Museum Sydney is one of the largest galleries for scientific and cultural specimens. This visiting plan will be effective for students and teachers to enhance their potential knowledge of Australian history. The rationale for this excursion will be assessed in this study with proper justification. A detailed reflection during the visit will also be explained with a special reflection on pedagogy theories. Finally, this report will discuss the links of this visiting experience with philosophy and curriculum in detail.

2. Part A: Rational

Brief description

The Australian Museum in Sydney is mainly famous for its large range of collected objects. According to reports, this museum has over 21 million cultural and historical objects. This is the oldest museum in Australia and it was opened in 1827 (CN Traveller, 2023). This museum has specimens like minerals, dinosaurs, birds, insects, flora and fauna. It is a crucial place for visitors to gain scientific knowledge of anthropology and natural history. This organisation provides free entry to visitors to attend all permanent exhibitions free of cost. This organisation admitted that it counted its 1 millionth visitor in 2022. This museum admitted that it welcomed total visitors of about 830,000 during the accounting year 2022 (Morris, 2022). The main aim of the Australian Museum is to spread knowledge about the natural environments of Australia, especially in the natural sciences of anthropology, biology and geology. This museum has three types of main exhibits including past exhibitions, permanent examinations and other exhibits. Permanent exhibitions include a display of 200 Treasures of the Australian Museum. According to reports, about 100 of 200 objects are the most valuable components of this museum (Government of

Western Australia, 2019). Past exhibitions allow visitors to visualise the cultures of the Pasifika people. Other exhibitions include Surviving Australia, Wild Planet, Wild Planet and Beauty from Nature.

Figure 1: Australian Museum Sydney

(Source: Government of Western Australia, 2019)

Role and resources

The roles of the Australian Museum in the promotion of scientific education and understanding

Australian Museum Sydney has been executing scientific collections, research and education for over 190 years. However, specimen copies of natural and historical resources make the visitors understand history easily. This situation increases the interest and engagement of visitors about anthropological objects. This organisation also showcases the development of communication among the Australian people. Hence, the public becomes aware of their linguistics, communication and cultural journey from this museum (Ellsslist, 2023). The archived objects of the Australian Museum assist scientists in executing biological conservation and research. This situation assists scientists in discovering more information about anthropology and the natural history of Australia.

Thus, visitors will be more aware of the archaeological history from further scientific research (Savage, 2022). Child learners will be able to learn more about life needs of plants and animals as well as features that define various animal groups. They can also develop their understanding about the relationships between plants and animals through scientific ideas by visiting the Australian Museum Sydney (Government of Western Australia, 2019).

Specially designed programmes and resources for children

Kidspace is a mini-museum level 2 for children under 5 in the Australian Museum and this specific area allows children to execute hands-on activities. Children can touch, play and pick up any type of item as per their choices. This museum also has specific areas for kids aged between 1 to 13 years old. This area is called Burra and it is effective for the development of new learning for kids (Sydney, 2023). This museum also executes school holiday activities at a lower price which allows children to attend workshops and shows. Australian Museum Sydney also has an attraction for dinosaur clover children. Prehistoric Playground is a specific zone for children where they can visualise specimens of dinosaurs. This museum also allows kids to read online stories about this organisation and its activities free of cost (Sydney, 2023).

Rationale for Selection

The development of the Australian Museum Sydney has been specially designed to spark scientific curiosity and cultural awareness. This museum also encourages students to enhance their scientific understanding. Students become aware of natural history and anthropological resources by visiting the Australian Museum (Joyce, 2023). It will become more effective for young children to develop object-based knowledge of natural history. Students will become aware of the evolution of the world if they are taken to this place. It will also clarify the historical processes with scientific evidence to students. Hence, diverse scientific concepts about Australian and global history will be understandable for students by executing excursions in this organisation (McAlpine, 2019).

This excursion will be effective for child learners in acknowledging cycle and transformation. They can also increase their knowledge about habitats of plants and animals by visiting the Australian Museum Sydney (Government of Western Australia, 2019).

3. Part B: Visit reflection and planning

Reflections

This visit was executed mainly to watch natural history and anthropological components of Australian history (Morris, 2020). I went to this place to visualise mainly creatures including butterflies, skeleton horses, humans and other animals. I watched different species of prehistoric animals, plants and insects. This diverse knowledge will support me in explaining all the scientific aspects of natural history. I also visualised detailed information about aboriginal culture in the Australian Museum Sydney. A two-hour visit assisted me in developing a detailed knowledge of Australian natural history. In my opinion, it will create awareness about climate change and wildlife conservation. However, museums are accurate evidence of climate change because of having long historical data (Morris, 2020). I mainly focused on collecting historical evidence from skeletons that were explained in the attached information. This museum has a specific area for children and a large range of artefacts. Hence, young learners will enjoy a lot while learning about scientific events in this museum.

Specific features

Object handling, games and school programmes are some specific features for children in the Australian Museum Sydney. It is free for every visitor to take entry into this museum, it only charges for special exhibitions (Mukhalalati and Taylor, 2019). School programme activities allow students to take part in different exhibitions about the Australian continent. This facility will assist students and young age children to gain a detailed knowledge about this continent. Object handling

activities will support young children to gain extensive knowledge about the lifestyle in Australia in the past 100 years. However, all the specific facilities for teachers will be effective for the development of extensive scientific knowledge of students. This situation will assist them in their higher educational level to understand all the scientific contents easily. Critical thinking skills and creativity skills will also be improved if students attend the excursion. Culture and tradition will also become clearer to young age learners (Morris, 2020).

Pedagogies and theories

Students will be able to gain detailed knowledge about ancient times by visiting the Australian Museum Sydney. Real-life excursions and practical knowledge about the historical components will increase students to gain more information. Hence, they will ask different questions about the viewed historical components to meet their queries. This situation will assist teachers in implementing inquiry-based learning pedagogy (Mukhalalati and Taylor, 2019). This situation will inspire students to gather more information from teachers by asking them queries. The scientific concept behind every historical event will also be taught by students. Implementation of this pedagogy style will assist teachers in increasing creativity and critical thinking skills. These skills are effective for students in the proper development of their brain (Giroux, 2020). Additionally, child students will become more creative in the development of learning activities in their science-based examinations with this practical activity. I can also guide students in collecting information by offering them intense guidance. This procedure will be effective for child learners to gain knowledge by themselves. It is one of the best procedures for engaging students with learning activities. This situation will be effective for students in increasing their scientific knowledge. Extensive knowledge will assist them to foster problem-solving skills in further academic sessions (Mukhalalati and Taylor, 2019).

Pre and post excursion experiences

I was engaged in taking early-aged students to visit the Australian Museum Sydney to increase their science-based knowledge. During the pre-excursion activity, I investigated the whole situation critical to take the students to this museum by putting them in challenges. I executed online research and read newspaper articles before going on this visit. It assisted in collecting information about the Australian Museum and its artefacts (Mukhalalati and Taylor, 2019). However, this museum is suitable for taking students on school excursions. A huge collection of historical, natural, biological and cultural components has assisted me in gathering a large amount of scientific knowledge. Students were quite inspired and happy before going to visit this museum. Most of the students' attractions were dinosaurs and other biological processes. They also read magazines and online stories on this museum before visiting it to gain a short overview of the Australian Museum Sydney. They asked me several questions about this place before visiting this place. Limited knowledge about this place did not assist me in giving satisfactory answers to students. However, I have become more aware of the natural and anthropological history of Australia after visiting this museum. Students become more conscious about different prehistoric and historic components after returning from this institution. They asked me several questions about history and scientific reasons behind several historical events. My enhanced knowledge supported me in answering all the questions of students easily. Hence, I can now understand that this excursion not only increased the knowledge of students but also boosted my knowledge about scientific historical events. Students can now identify different faunas and wild animals by themselves from any picture after visualising them practically (Mukhalalati and Taylor, 2019). According to my observation, critical thinking, creativity and problem-solving skills increased strongly.

4. Part C: Linking to Curriculum and Philosophy

Links to EYLF and ACARA

EYLF

Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) is an Australian national curriculum framework for teachers who especially work with children between 0 and 5 years. It was mainly developed by the Australian government to improve children's education during the early years. Belonging, being and becoming are the main three parts of this framework. Belonging is the situation of acknowledging the people with whom learners are dealing. Being allows children to learn about the present, not about the future. Becoming reflects on the environment in which they were developed. The excursion will assist students in identifying historical objects at the present time (NMA, 2023). In addition, this extensive knowledge will support them in the development of their critical thinking ability. Hence, the whole situation will assist teachers in creating a learning environment within the classrooms. It will happen because students will ask questions about different objects and situations at the Australian Museum Sydney after returning to classrooms. I will focus on delivering informative lectures to maintain the quality of information. This process will assist teachers in developing a fundamental base of scientific understanding of learners (NMA, 2023).

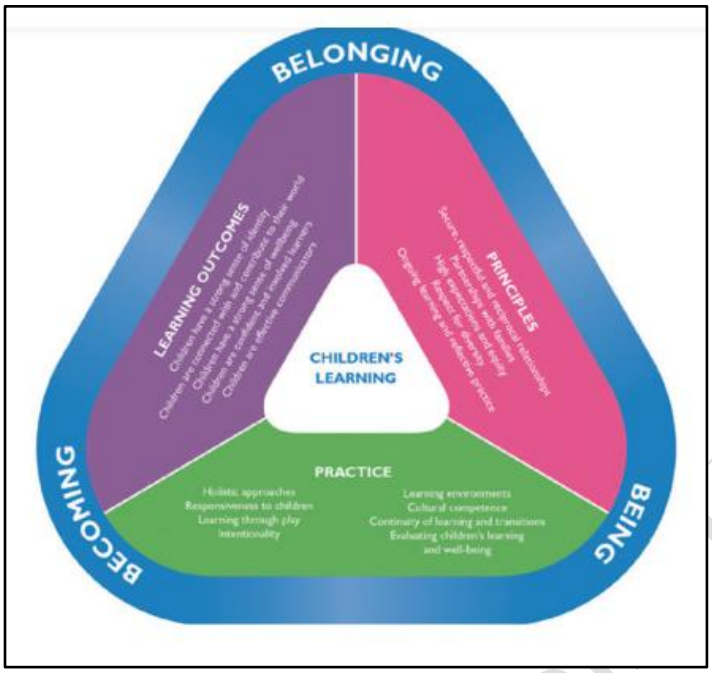

Figure 1: Themes of EYLF

(Source: NMA, 2023)

ACARA

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) is an organisation that develops all types of curricula in Australia. It also executes national assessment programmes and supports students in developing their learning. The excursion to the Australian Museum will be a great activity for increasing the knowledge of young students. It will enhance the knowledge of students practically and it will be easier to identify historical processes (Raising Stars, 2023). The assessment of their knowledge can also be executed by teachers by following guidelines properly. This situation will assist teachers in identifying the actual knowledge levels of students. Teachers will be able to implement proper solutions for improving weak areas of students for the long term. Hence, cognitive knowledge and critical thinking ability will also be boosted effectively (Raising Stars, 2023).

Philosophical Alignment

Integrity is one of the main philosophical values that will support one in executing their responsibilities properly. I need to be honest with my responsibilities to students and I will honestly support the development of scientific understanding among students. This activity will be effective for child learners to increase their confidence in reading scientific books (OAJ, 2023). Hope is the second most valuable trait of an educator and they always believe that their students can perform better. I will teach students about anthropological and natural history-related content in detail to foster their knowledge improvement. Care will be the third philosophical value that will assist me in caring for all students during the excursion. This strategy will be effective for me in focusing on all the questions of students [properly. Hence, I will be able to solve all their queries quickly.

5. Conclusion

Australian Museum Sydney is one of the renowned museums in Australia and it is globally famous for its preserved natural objects. This place is a suitable travelling area for young age learners to increase their scientific knowledge and understanding. This excursion is suitable for gathering diverse knowledge about the natural history of Australia. However, this report has assessed a detailed overview of the Australian Museum along with proper justification. It assessed all types of exhibitions and components of this place. The mission and facilities of this organisation have also been discussed. However, museums play vital roles in the development of scientific understanding among students. This study has identified a specific range of facilities of this institution, especially for students. A large number of objects and a kid-friendly environment were the main reasons for selecting the Australian Museum as an excursion destination in this report. Specific activities, reflections, theories and pedagogies have been evaluated with special references from the visit. Pre and post-excursion experiences have been explained. This study has assessed the link of EYLF and ACARA with this visit with proper justification. Finally, this report has discussed philosophical alignments with the special references from the visit in detail.

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