

ELSA in Action

**Boopa Werem
Kindergarten and Preschool
Cairns, Queensland**

Boopa Werem Kindergarten and Preschool

is a non-profit community based kindergarten and was established in 1978. Boopa Werem runs a programme that recognises individual differences and takes into account aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child rearing practices, culture and learning styles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island preschool children. Boopa Werem is affiliated with C&K (Creche and Kindergarten Association of Queensland). C&K is a non-profit community organisation with 340 kindergartens throughout Queensland.



Children completing an obstacle course using positional language.



Going "through" the tunnel.



Going "under" the plank.



Lynne Ireland
Kindergarten teacher

“The children like the apps, and I find that being able to do the apps on the big whiteboard with the whole groups is actually really good. You can just do a quick little thing to introduce the concept, then go away and come back. Even if you don't have a lot of iPads, the children that are interested can do it on the iPad.”



Playing the ELSA apps.



Matching actions to positional cards.

“App 2 has been really good for a lot of our children where English is a second language because they speak creole or Aboriginal English and they don't use all those words necessarily all the time. It's helpful to see which words they understand and which ones they don't. Jasleen who speaks Punjabi is getting more confident with English but it's helping her too to think about those positional words.”

“I really like the educator app and the examples of the ERA sequence because they help you think about all the things that you actually have got already and how you can use them in different ways and how you can connect things like the obstacle course with the book we were reading.”

