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Play School's Donald Macdonald Fondly Remembered

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Donald Macdonald, a cherished founding presenter of *Play School*, has been remembered as a kind, generous, and highly creative figure who shaped generations of Australian children's television.

Donald Macdonald, one of the original presenters of *Play School*, is being warmly remembered as a kind, generous, and creative force who helped shape Australian children's television. His passing has prompted an outpouring of tributes from fans and colleagues

who fondly recall his significant role in the beloved Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) program.

As one of the founding presenters when *Play School* first aired in 1966, Macdonald played an important part in introducing the show to audiences across Australia. His calm and gentle manner helped set the tone for a program that would go on to become a national treasure. Macdonald's warm presence, paired with his storytelling skills, made him a trusted figure in the homes of thousands of Australian families.

But Macdonald's contributions extended far beyond the screen. He was a prolific writer, actor, and broadcaster whose career spanned many decades. He brought creativity and heart to everything he worked on, from theatre productions and television scripts to his work as a commentator and radio presenter. His versatility and passion for the arts made him a respected figure not only in children's television but across Australia's wider cultural scene.

Colleagues remember him not only for his professionalism but also for his kindness. Many who worked with Macdonald describe him as generous with his time, thoughtful in his words, and always encouraging to those around him. His impact was felt not only by the audiences he entertained but by the people who had the privilege to work alongside him.

The legacy of *Play School* which remains one of Australia's most enduring children's programs owes much to Macdonald's early influence. The show has helped generations of children learn, imagine, and grow, and Macdonald's contribution to its development continues to be celebrated.