

Ecolinc conducted a very successful teacher professional learning day on Friday 18 March. Held in conjunction with Museum Victoria, participants were introduced to Museum Victoria's new online survey program, 'Biodiversity Snapshots'. www.biodiversitysnapshots.net.au

Participants trialed the macroinvertebrate and frog online surveys using both computers and iPads. Teachers also trialed a new Ecolinc plants iPad activity.

Ecolinc will once again offer free programs during Education Week for students from Years 1-8. Coinciding with the launch of Ecolinc's new geological trail, the 'Digging up the Diprotodon' program will be featured. Students will be introduced to the world of the megafauna, including the Diprotodon, by exploring the Ecolinc geological trail, examining megafauna trackways and conducting a fossil dig.

Ecolinc will also conduct a teacher professional learning day during Education Week, focusing on the recent discovery and study of megafauna trackways in south-west Victoria. Dr Stephen Carey, Geology Department, University of Ballarat, will deliver the opening address. Casts of megafauna trackways, currently on loan from the University of Ballarat, will be incorporated within a range of practical sessions conducted by Ecolinc staff. This teacher professional learning day will be held on **Friday 20 May 2011**.

Book now to avoid disappointment.



Teachers participating in an iPad activity featuring plant identification at a recent professional learning day.

ECOLINC PROGRAM EVALUATION

In order to continue to monitor Ecolinc's program development and delivery, a teacher online survey is now available for teachers to complete following their visit to Ecolinc. In addition to the regular evaluation process, the online survey will provide a greater opportunity for teachers to comment on the effectiveness of Ecolinc programs, particularly how the program links to the school curriculum. Ecolinc will be particularly interested in comments relating to the impact of the visit on students and their learning.



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TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FRIDAY 20 MAY 2011

Digging up the Diprotodon

(suitable for primary and secondary teachers)
Celebrate Education Week and the official opening of the Ecolinc Geological Trail with this hands-on investigation of the megafauna. Dr Stephen Carey, Geology Department, University of Ballarat will provide a fascinating insight into the recent discovery and study of megafauna, in south-west Victoria. A range of classroom activities will be conducted.

FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2011

An Introduction to Nanotechnology

(suitable for Years 7-11)

Due to popular demand, Ecolinc will once again conduct this innovative practical program using the national Nanotechnology School Resource, AccessNano. Mr Jason Major, Manager TechNyou, will present the latest research and ethical considerations of the use of nanotechnology, followed by a range of activities presented by Ecolinc staff.

FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER 2011

Discovering Wetlands Online

Ecolinc's unique online wetlands program will be featured, with an extensive hands-on overview of the program provided.

FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER 2011

VCE Science

Ecolinc's annual VCE program for teachers of Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science and Physics, incorporating the latest updates relating to the Australian Curriculum.

The cost for each program is \$80 including morning tea, lunch, and a full curriculum package. All participants will receive a VIT approved certificate of course completion.



Department of Education and
Early Childhood Development



Education Week 15-21 May 2011