

ECOLINC BEGINS 2012 CELEBRATING A MILESTONE, PARTICIPATION OF 50,000 STUDENTS

ECOLINC UPDATE

Ecolinc celebrates the participation of 50,000 students (achieved in September 2011), with Newtown Primary School on 28 February 2012. A celebratory program day is planned.

Ecolinc welcomes Dr Antanas Spokevicius to the Ecolinc teaching team. Antanas is an experienced researcher in the areas of plant sciences and molecular biology. Plant science is a major theme within a range of Ecolinc programs.

Ecolinc continues to offer a wide range of P-10 and VCE programs including six new onsite programs in 2012 - 'Investigating biodiversity in the wetland' (Years 5-8), 'Nanotechnology' (Year 10), and new VCE units Environmental Science Unit 1 AoS 1 & 2, Chemistry Unit 1 AoS 2 and Biology Unit 4 AoS 2.

Ecolinc has recently upgraded its atomic absorption spectrophotometer with a new Perkin Elmer AAnalyst 400. This is an integral component of the VCE Unit 2 and 3 Chemistry programs.

Teachers wishing to make a booking for 2012 should not delay. Bookings are now being taken for all terms this year.

Ecolinc's new outreach programs will feature in a DEECD teacher professional development program designed to showcase the six statewide Specialist Science Centres. This will be held at GTAC on Friday 25 May 2012.

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ECOLINC TEAM

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OUTREACH PROGRAMS

A new Ecolinc website is currently under development and should be online in Term 2. The new website will map all current Ecolinc programs to the Australian Curriculum, providing the latest curriculum information.

Ecolinc will launch two new online outreach programs in 2012. 'Discovering wetlands' and 'Watching the weather' will be available from the beginning of Term 2. Each program consists of a number of interactive learning objects and student/teacher guides, enabling a complete investigation of each unit.

Ecolinc now offers offsite outreach programs for primary/lower secondary classes. This involves an Ecolinc education officer conducting a tailored program in your classroom, following a discussion with you.

The DEECD is currently providing support for government rural and high SFO schools to access onsite and offsite outreach programs.

2012 TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DATES

FRIDAY 22 JUNE 2012

Discovering Wetlands Online (Years 5-8)

Preview this new online program and engage with a range of interactive online learning objects.

FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2012

Investigating biodiversity in the wetland (Years 5-8)

Use a range of technologies to investigate biodiversity and make your own movie.

FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2012

Biodiversity of the Western Volcanic Plains Online (Years 5-8)

Preview aspects of Ecolinc's latest online program.

FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER 2012

VCE Science

Contact Ecolinc for further details