

ECOLINC UPDATE

Ecolinc will celebrate Education Week this week with a number of schools attending onsite programs. In addition, Ecolinc's new outreach programs will feature in a DEECD teacher professional development program at GTAC on Friday 25 May 2012.

Thanks to the DEECD for providing Education Week support.

Ecolinc is very pleased to welcome Ms Elizabeth Sliwa to the Ecolinc education support team, as our new horticultural technician.

Ecolinc's new website will soon be launched. The new website will enable teachers to easily select the most appropriate program for their classes. All F-10 programs are mapped to the Australian Curriculum and full details of all Ecolinc programs are easily accessible. The website will feature two new online programs 'Discovering wetlands' and 'Watching the weather'.

Teachers wishing to make a booking for the remainder of 2012 or in 2013 should not delay. Bookings are now being taken for 2013.

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Newtown PS students receiving their 50,000th celebratory gift, donated by Mr and Mrs Spinks

SUCCESSFUL DSE FUNDING GRANT

Ecolinc has received a significant funding grant from the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) to develop an online educational program focusing on the biodiversity of the Western Volcanic Plains.

An exciting range of online learning objects is planned including a flora and fauna ID/survey app, 'Quadrats Online', involving an investigation of virtual and real plant quadrats, 'Managing a grassland ecosystem', a 'Virtual grassland excursion to Mt Rothwell', the opportunity to communicate with grassland experts, a photo gallery and an interactive quiz. Details regarding each learning object will be regularly posted.

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

This new online program will officially be launched with three wetland experts in attendance. Engage with a range of interactive online learning objects including a new online macroinvertebrate ID tool.

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 23 NOVEMBER 2012
(PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)

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

Preview aspects of Ecolinc's new online program with the opportunity to visit Mt Rothwell

FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER 2012

VCE Science

The latest information on the new senior secondary Australian Curriculum for Science



Department of Education and Early Childhood Development



Education Week 20-26 May 2012