



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATIONS CENTRE
BACCHUS MARSH

Ecolinc will celebrate Children's Week from 24-28 October 2011, by providing a free 'Digging up the Diprotodon' program for students up to 8 years of age. Please book early if you would like to participate. Thanks to the DEECD for providing Children's Week funding.

Ecolinc's new range of online and offsite outreach programs will be available in 2012. These programs will complement existing Ecolinc onsite programs. DEECD funding currently provides an opportunity for rural government primary schools, which have booked an Ecolinc program, to access a free pre or post Ecolinc outreach program. Any rural government school interested in accessing an Ecolinc outreach program is invited to contact Ecolinc for further details.

Ecolinc's new online outreach programs include 'Discovering Wetlands' and 'Watching the Weather'. Designed for Years 5-8 students, these programs will be available on the new Ecolinc website from 2012. In addition, a new onsite program for Years 5-8 currently being developed is 'Investigating Biodiversity in the Wetland'. This new program incorporates a range of online and mobile technologies, resulting in students creating a 60 second movie addressing an aspect of biodiversity.

All new programs will be highlighted in the 2012 Ecolinc Curriculum brochure, available in November 2011.



Cast of giant kangaroo footprints at Ecolinc

Ecolinc conducted a very successful teacher professional learning day 'An Introduction to Nanotechnology' on Friday 9 September 2011, with Mr Jason Major (Manager-TechNyou) providing the opening address. Participants synthesized nanogold particles, investigated the properties of nitinol and ferrofluid and explored a range of materials containing nanoparticles. A number of these activities will be incorporated into a new Year 11 Chemistry Unit 1 AoS 2 Materials program to be offered in 2012.

Ecolinc's 'VCE Science' professional learning day will be held on **Friday 9 December 2011**. Teachers will have the opportunity to trial new Ecolinc VCE programs including: VCE Environmental Science Unit 1 AoS 1 & 2, Chemistry Unit 1 AoS 2 and Biology Unit 4 AoS 2.

Book now to avoid disappointment.

 **A Victorian Government initiative**

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TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER 2011 Resourcing your Science Classroom through the Specialist Science Centres Network

Ecolinc, together with GTAC, VSSEC, BioLAB, EarthEd and Quantum will showcase new online educational resources at a DEECD Specialist Science Centre teacher professional learning day, to be held at GTAC. Ecolinc's new online 'Discovering Wetlands' program will be featured, with a hands-on overview provided. To book for this activity, please contact gtac@gtac.edu.au

The cost for this program is \$25 and includes a full buffet lunch.

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



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. Any teachers who have visited Ecolinc in 2011 are encouraged to complete the 5-10 minute survey. <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ecolincpostvisit>

State Government  Department of Education and
Early Childhood Development