

2014 ECOLINC UPDATE

WELCOME

Ecolinc welcomes Dr Anthony Fernando to the Ecolinc team.

BIODIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN VOLCANIC PLAINS ONLINE

The **Ecolinc** BWVP Flora and Fauna Field Guide app has recently been updated to include a 'school' field so that sightings can be recorded/identified from individual schools, sightings can be saved when out of Internet range and submitted when back in range, and the capability for approved sightings to be exported to the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) website. All approved sightings will now contribute to Ecolinc's sightings database and also that of the ALA.

The 'Quadrats Online' and 'Grassland Food Webs' learning objects are now available online, with 'Managing Grasslands' to be released this term. This will be followed by 'Talk with the Experts', the 'Mt Rothwell Virtual Tour' and an interactive quiz.

To celebrate the completion of the BWVP online project, Ecolinc will provide a teacher professional learning day covering all aspects of this new online program on Friday 20 June 2014. In addition, a free optional late afternoon/evening trip to Mt Rothwell will be available. This will link directly with the 'Managing Grasslands' and 'Mt Rothwell Virtual Tour' components. Please submit your registration form for this PLD to confirm your attendance.

NEW ECOLINC PROGRAMS

Several new programs will be available in 2014. These include a Year 9/10 proteomics program 'Comparing muscle proteins as evidence for evolution' (available now), Year 9/10 'DNA Barcoding' and Year 7-10 'Renewable Energy' (both available in Term 2).



Julie, Anthony, Suzanne, Carolanne, Liz, Son, David
Nicole, Jacqui, Patrice, Maria

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Ecolinc continues to offer offsite outreach programs for primary/lower secondary classes. This involves an Ecolinc education officer conducting a tailored program in your classroom to suit your needs, often in conjunction with an onsite Ecolinc program.

Details of all Ecolinc onsite, offsite and online programs can be found on the Ecolinc website.

The DEECD continues to provide support for government rural and high SFO schools to access onsite and offsite outreach programs. Please contact Ecolinc to confirm your eligibility, or for further information.

EDUCATION WEEK 2014

The DEECD will highlight the Science Specialist Centres during Education Week 18-24 May 2014.

Ecolinc will officially launch the complete BWVP online outreach program incorporating seven online learning objects. Free BWVP programs will be offered to schools wishing to participate during Education Week. Please book now to avoid disappointment. This Education Week activity is presented by Ecolinc with the support of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

FRIDAY 20 JUNE 2014

Biodiversity of the Western Volcanic Plains

Preview the fully completed BWVP online outreach program by previewing all of the online grassland learning objects. Participate in the free optional tour to Mt Rothwell, complementing 'Managing Grasslands' and the 'Virtual Tour'.

FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2014

DNA Barcoding

Explore DNA barcoding by extracting plant DNA and using bioinformatics tools to identify your plant sample. This activity will preview a new Year 9/10 program.

FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER 2014

VCE Science

FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER 2014

Renewable Energy

CONTACT DETAILS

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