

Ecolinc celebrates Children's Week in October



Ecolinc will celebrate Children's Week, from 26 October - 30 October, with the launch of a free new program - 'Digging up the Diprotodon', for children up to 8 years of age. Schools/kindergartens wishing to participate can now book by contacting Ecolinc. Thank you to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for providing funding to support this national event.

As part of 'Digging up the Diprotodon', students will be introduced to a range of megafauna, including the Diprotodon which was found in Bacchus Marsh. Students will participate in a Geological Trail, examine megafauna trackways - casts of actual megafauna footprints, and will 'dig up' a fossil. Thank you to the University of Ballarat for providing Ecolinc with a number of trackways featuring the Diprotodon, giant kangaroos and giant wombats.

Ecolinc conducted a very successful professional learning day in September entitled 'Wetland Wonders'. Participants enjoyed fascinating presentations by Professor Peter Gell (University of Ballarat) and Mr Arthur Podkowsinski (Olympus Australia), followed by hands on workshops focusing on microscopy, aquatic plants/animals, and wetland chemistry. Participants received new Ecolinc EnviroSax bags and a range of indigenous plants.

Ecolinc will be conducting three VCE professional learning activities in December. Please book early.

Ecolinc 2010 Curriculum Programs will be available in Term 4, with a number of new and innovative programs to choose from, in addition to the current P-12 program selection. All programs address the themes Life, Water, Earth, Air and Energy. VCE SAC programs for Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics, VCAL and IB are also available.



Students from Bacchus Marsh Primary School 'investigating frogs' at Ecolinc.



Professional learning at Ecolinc.

A Victorian Government initiative



TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING MONDAY 7 DECEMBER 2009

VCE Physics and Environmental Science - a workshop designed for VCE Physics and Environmental Science teachers, to update aspects of the study designs and explore options for student activities.

WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2009

VCE Chemistry - a workshop designed for VCE Chemistry teachers, to update aspects of the study design, focusing on instrumental analysis. Explore a range of student activities.

FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER 2009

VCE Biology - a workshop designed for VCE Biology teachers, to update aspects of the study design. Explore a range of student activities.

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

mecu is currently finalizing a new sponsorship arrangement to be announced next term.



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