

STARLINK

Issue 49

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Useful Sites!

The National Child Protection Clearinghouse (Aust)

http://www.aifs.org.au/nch/nch_menu.html

Huge range of links to research, programs and other and resources on this site!

Center for Early Childhood Leadership (USA)

<http://www2.nl.edu/twal/index.htm>

Dedicated to enhancing the management skills, professional orientation and leadership capacity of early childhood administrators.

National Center for Early Development and Learning (USA)

<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~ncedl/index.htm>

NCEDL focuses on enhancing the cognitive, social, & emotional development of children from birth through age eight.

Center Research Web Site (USA)

<http://research.cse.ucla.edu/>

Provides links to research reports and publications for all National Research and Development Centers in the US.. (Topics include Assessment, At Risk, Diversity, Early Learning, Adult Literacy and Learning.)

Starlink is proudly sponsored by



Students @ Work Workshop

This program equips schools with the tools and strategies for negotiating an extended placement for teams of students in a workplace where the students cooperate to problem-solve a real business dilemma.

Biz-Ed Linx™ is a suitable vehicle for establishing functional industry partnerships in the community surrounding a school. Leadership, self-management, motivation, team work, problem-solving, creativity and presentation skills.

Developing links with business and the community. Five (5) day & Extended Program formats available.

Contact:
Georgene Bridgeman
Phone: 0412 339 553

E-mail:
georgene.b@AKORN.com.au
ABN 61 101 465 909

Venue:
The Elizabethan Lodge,
604 Middleborough Rd
North Blackburn
Melways Map 47 H4
Date: Wed 7 May 2003

Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Cost: \$150 per participant,
\$250 for 2,
\$350 for 3 (Inc GST)

Cost also includes program manuals and CD

The same program will also be offered in Gippsland:

Venue:
Baw Baw Technology Ctr.
Princes Hwy
Trafalgar
Date: Wed 21st May 2003



Growth Through Excellence

WANTED!
VCAL, Career and MIP's Coordinators
Biz-Ed Linx™
Students @ Work Workshops
7 and 21 May 2003

PEN—Public Education Network

<http://www.PublicEducation.org>

A US based website that nevertheless has many resources and links very useful in an Australian context. A number of interesting articles and reports are available for download, including past issues of the *Connections* newsletter.

Two examples of articles available:

Battling Teacher Burnout:

<http://www.publiceducation.org/cgi-bin/downloadmanager/publications/p104.asp>

How to Set Up a Public Conversation (in five steps)

http://www.publiceducation.org/resources/public_conversation.htm

Covers a process for enhancing effective communication between the community and the school Board/Council.

Also of particular interest is the PEN Weekly Newsblast:

The PEN Weekly NewsBlast provides tens of thousands of readers a free, unbiased selection of education headlines every week. Every week, the PEN Weekly NewsBlast offers annotated links to articles about education: no politics, no preaching, no agenda.

Well worth subscribing!

PEN's Guiding Principles

- Public education is fundamental to a democratic, civil, and prosperous society.
- Public schools are the critical institutions for breaking the cycle of poverty and redressing social inequities.
- Education reform must be systemic to be effective.
- Parents and caregivers must be involved in any attempt to improve public schools.
- Public engagement, community support, and adequate resources are essential to the success of public education.
- Independent, community-based organizations must play a central role in building and sustaining broad support for high-quality public education and for achieving significant reform in the nation's public schools.

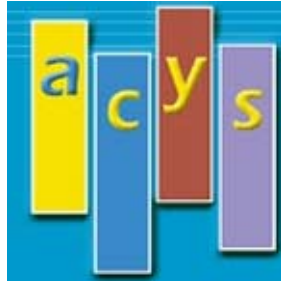


Youth Field Express

<http://www.acys.utas.edu.au/>

The Australian Clearinghouse for Youth Studies produces this electronic publication at the end of each month. It highlights the latest initiatives, trends, resources and other information relevant to the Australian youth sector.

To subscribe, go to the ACYS web site where you'll find a link to follow to the subscription page. While you're there, you may also like to check out the rest of the ACYS site and add it to your favourites/bookmarks. It provides a great deal of information well worth browsing and revisiting regularly.



Although Youth Field Xpress has been promoted in Starlink before, that was a fair while ago so it is undoubtedly timely to do so again for readers! It is an excellent source of information.

Indeed, a number of Starlink articles/items over the years have been first sourced from Youth Field Xpress. ©

Battling Teacher Burnout

Already mentioned in this issue of Starlink (in the article on the Public Education Network) is a short PDF file available for download at:

<http://www.publiceducation.org/cgi-bin/downloadmanager/publications/p104.asp>

There are also a number of other useful resources available on this topic on the net, some of which are referenced in the above PDF article.

For example:

1) Total Teacher Wellness:

http://www.speakwell.com/well/2000_fall/articles/total_teacher_wellness.html

2) Tools for Controlling Stress:

http://www.mindtools.com/pages/main/newMN_TCS.htm

(And while you're on this website, you may like to check out the huge range of resources available on other topics too! For example, *Tools for Mastering Complexity*,

Techniques for Effective Decision Making, and Information and Study Skills)

3) Catching Up With Our Bodies: Reflections on Teacher Burnout

www.education-world.com/a_curr/curr344.shtml

And finally from the Center for Mental Health in Schools, one of my favourite web resources, you can find a HUGE list of helpful articles, resources and other web links at:

<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/qf/burnout.htm>

You know there is a problem with the education system when you realize that out of the 3 R's, only one begins with an R.
(Dennis Miller)

NSW Child Death Review Team

A report from the NSW Child Death Review Team is available online.

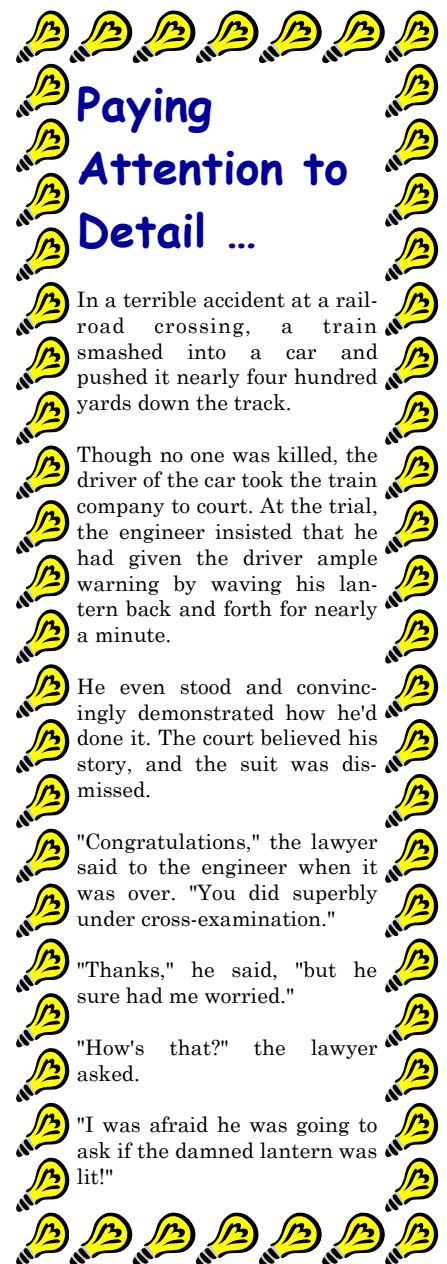
Suicide and risk-taking deaths of children and young people - A study of all deaths of children and young people aged 12 to 17 years in NSW by suicide or risk-taking over a five-year period (January 1996 to December 2000).

See it at: <http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/publications/cdrt2000.html>

And read the executive summary at: <http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/publications/cdrt2000.html#srt>

On the same web page, there is also another interesting report available: *Fatal Assault of Children and Young People* – a three and a half year study of 60 children and young people who died as a result of fatal assault.

You can increase your brain power three to fivefold simply by laughing and having fun before working on a problem
(Doug Hall, Author)



Paying Attention to Detail ...

In a terrible accident at a railroad crossing, a train smashed into a car and pushed it nearly four hundred yards down the track.

Though no one was killed, the driver of the car took the train company to court. At the trial, the engineer insisted that he had given the driver ample warning by waving his lantern back and forth for nearly a minute.

He even stood and convincingly demonstrated how he'd done it. The court believed his story, and the suit was dismissed.

"Congratulations," the lawyer said to the engineer when it was over. "You did superbly under cross-examination."

"Thanks," he said, "but he sure had me worried."

"How's that?" the lawyer asked.

"I was afraid he was going to ask if the damned lantern was lit!"

Dollars and Sense

<http://www.dollarsandsense.com.au/>

"Dollars and Sense – Making Sense of Your Money" is an excellent source of information specifically designed for young people. A Commonwealth Bank initiative, it is designed to assist them with the information they need to making their own financial decisions in the face of the increasing complexity of financial management in current times.

Also, of particular interest to schools, is the section found by clicking the link to "Teachers" from the left hand menu. There are a large number of curriculum tools, resources and strategies to assist teachers in planning activities for their students using this site. Check out the Curriculum Library, Teacher Resources and an interesting article on e-learning!

When I wrote to request permission to promote the site in Starlink, I received a reply from Janet Nagly, Manager of Dollars and Sense. Her reply included the following, which explains the key purpose of the web site:

We are happy for you to refer young people to our site. We want to encourage financial literacy in young people between the ages of 14-21 in whatever way we can. As we are only 5 months new, we are still trying to develop a reputation and a 'presence' with

Australian teachers, and young people. We are the first site in Australia to be linked across curricula in every state and territory. Although the site is an initiative of the Commonwealth Bank, we are not here to sell products to young people, just to help them manage their finances better.

Also, from the FAQ page:

What's different about this site?

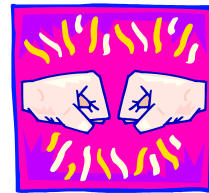
- *It supports classroom activities and meets the requirements of the Year 10-12 Mathematics and Business/Commerce curriculums in all states and territories*
- *It is the first time comprehensive financial information has been delivered via a youth oriented website in such an interactive and user friendly way*
- *Ongoing input from teachers and students will keep the site current and relevant to its audiences*
- *The information is practical and relevant to young people and reflects the increasing complexity of financial options*

start with
life skills...



protecting it
...Looking after
the important
things.

Dealing Creatively With Difference



Differences between people are an inevitable part of life – both personally and professionally. Learning how to deal creatively with conflict is important to enhance the effectiveness of all our interactions in a work environment.

Dealing Creatively With Difference offers a range of professional development programs for staff members. These programs are customisable to suit your needs - from brief introductory or refresher workshops to a comprehensive three-day training program.

To learn more about these programs, contact:

Sue James

Phone: (03) 9758-2528

Mobile: 0402-979-384

Email: info@suejames.com.au

Website:

<http://www.suejames.com.au>

(Take the link to Services)



Brainstorm Productions

Brainstorm Productions is an educational theatre company that produces in-school performances about a number of welfare issues including alienation, bullying, body image, child abuse, violence, harassment, discrimination, domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, depression, suicide and resilience.

Drama, comedy, music, circus and dance are used to provide insights into how students can resume control of their own behaviour. Performances are presented to over 250,000 students each year across 5 states. The Actors with Brainstorm Productions are young and passionate about the issues in the shows and are an inspiration to students and staff.

Winner of the NSW Performing Arts Frater Award for five consecutive years – "Best Feedback From Schools" and winner of an Australian Violence Prevention Award 2001.

Contact Details

Brainstorm Productions

Phone: (02) 6628 5206

Freecall (within Australia): 1800 676 224

Email: bronwyn@brainstormproductions.com.au

[@brainstormproductions.com.au](mailto:bronwyn@brainstormproductions.com.au)

Web site:

<http://www.brainstormproductions.com.au>

[com.au](http://www.brainstormproductions.com.au)

ABN 17 088 834 637



You want us to do WHAT?
(Ancient Chinese wall engineer)

Longitudinal Study of Australian Children



<http://www.aifs.gov.au/growingup/>

Growing Up in Australia is a longitudinal study of Australian children funded by the Australian Government as a part of its Stronger Families and Communities Strategy.

The study aims to examine the impact of Australia's unique social and cultural environment on the next generation and will further understanding of early childhood development, inform social policy debate, and be used to identify opportunities for early intervention and prevention strategies in policy areas concerning children.

Growing Up in Australia will explore family and social issues, and address a range of research questions about children's development and wellbeing. Its longitudinal structure will enable researchers to determine critical periods for the provision of services and welfare support and identify the long-term consequences of policy innovations.



Developing Practice: Child, Youth and Family Work Journal

Developing Practice is published in Sydney by the Association of Children's Welfare Agencies (ACWA) and the Family Support Services Association of NSW (FSSA) for the child, youth and family services sector

The journal is aimed at practitioners and managers who provide programs and services for vulnerable children, young people and families. It is designed to provide an opportunity to present and discuss practices, programs, ideas and practical initiatives aimed at assisting children, young people and families.

Key content areas include:

- Family work
- Out of home care
- Child protection
- Young people at risk
- Early intervention
- Group work and community development programs for children & families

For subscription details:

Phone: (02) 8281 8822 **OR** go to <http://www.acwa.asn.au/acwa/publications/Journal/journal.html>

Drug and Alcohol Information Sites

Drug Referral Information for Schools

<http://www.drisc.gov.au>

This web site aims to help school staff, particularly welfare/pastoral care staff to respond to the needs of young people who have alcohol and drug issues. Information on these issues can be searched on the site. Also on the site is a *Frequently Asked Questions* section on the issues to be considered when referring a young person to a community-based service. The site was developed by the Australian Drug Foundation and is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training.

Alcohol & Other Drug Clearinghouse

<http://www.adca.org.au>

ADCA's National Information Clearinghouse has been formed under the umbrella of the ADCA's Australian Resource Centre for the Alcohol and Other Drugs Sector.

Key elements of the clearinghouse include a comprehensive library and the DRUG database, the latter being freely searchable via the ADCA web site.

The clearinghouse can also be contacted by:

Mail: PO Box 269 Woden ACT 2606
Email:

aodclearinghouse@adca.org.au

Phone: (02) 6281 1002

Fax: (02) 6282 7364

Perceptive Definitions

The Washington Post publishes a yearly contest in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for various words. The following were some recent winning entries:

1. **Coffee (n.)**, a person who is coughed upon.
2. **Flabbergasted (adj.)**, appalled over how much weight you have gained.
3. **Abdicate (v.)**, to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. **Esplanade (v.)**, to attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. **Willy-nilly (adj.)**, impotent
6. **Negligent (adj.)**, describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightie.
7. **Lymph (v.)**, to walk with a lisp.
8. **Gargoyle (n.)**, an olive-flavored mouthwash.
9. **Flatulence (n.)** the emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.
10. **Balderdash (n.)**, a rapidly receding hairline.
11. **Testicle (n.)**, a humorous question on an exam.
12. **Rectitude (n.)**, the formal, dignified demeanor assumed by a proctologist immediately before he examines you
13. **Oyster (n.)**, a person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddish expressions.
14. **Circumvent (n.)**, the opening in the front of boxer shorts.
15. **Frisbeetarianism (n.)**, The belief that, when you die, your soul goes up on the roof and gets stuck there.
16. **Pokemon (n.)**, A Jamaican proctologist.

The Post also invited readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter, and supply a new definition. Here are some of those winners:

1. **Intaxication:** Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.
2. **Reintarnation:** Coming back to life as a hill-billy.
3. **Foreploy:** Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting laid (e.g.: "I'm a doctor...")
4. **Giraffiti:** Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.
5. **Sarchasm:** The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.
6. **Inoculatte:** To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.
7. **Hipatitis:** Terminal coolness.
8. **Osteopornosis:** A degenerate disease.
9. **Karmageddon:** It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.
10. **Glibido:** All talk and no action.
11. **Dopeler effect:** The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly

Youth would be an ideal state if it
came a little later in life
(Herbert Henry Asquith)