

NSW PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Handbook

& CALENDAR FOR EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES



Children's
Services
Central

NSW Professional Support Co-ordinator

FEB-JUNE 2014



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Inclusion & Professional
Support Program

AN AUSTRALIAN
GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

The Inclusion and Professional Support Program is funded
by the Australian Government Department of Education

Little Scientists

Little Scientists is a not-for-profit initiative of FROEBEL Australia and the Little Scientists' House Foundation in Germany, designed to facilitate children's curiosity for science, maths and technology through child-appropriate, fun and playful experiments.

All education and care services that work with children from three to six years of age are invited to join the program and to become an accredited Little Scientists' House. Teachers and educators are continuously trained through the program and empowered to implement the program at their service.

The program includes:

- ✱ Hands-on workshops with several rounds of practical experiments, most of which can be done with everyday materials, many of which are already in your centre.
- ✱ Getting to know and use the Little Scientists Research Cycle with its six symbols, a scientific method which helps to give structure and purpose to experimenting and lays the foundation for further investigation.
- ✱ Having fun while exploring given materials in small groups. You will experience the stages of surprise, asking questions, coming up with hypotheses, testing these in further experiments, documenting your findings and discussing the outcomes, much like what the children will experience.
- ✱ Each participating centre will receive a set of laminated cards with a wealth of ideas for experiments, scientific background information as well as general ideas how to set up and organise experimenting with preschool children.

Find out more

For further information: www.littlescientists.org.au

Introductions to Little Scientist

Little Scientist 'taster sessions' will be held in Newcastle, Albury and Marrickville in 2014. Dates and further information will be released on our website:

www.cscentral.org.au

Specialist Equipment

Education and care services often need specialist equipment to include a child. For example, a child may need special seats or equipment to help them stand, toilet or communicate in an education and care service. This is where Specialist Equipment comes in.

We have a range of equipment in stock and can get other equipment as needed.

Community Child Care Co-operative manages Specialist Equipment on behalf of Children's Services Central.

If you need specialist equipment, talk to your Inclusion Support Facilitator (ISF) and any therapists working with the child.

Find out more

See the website at:

cscentral.org.au/support/specialist-equipment.html
or call us on **1800 157 818**.

