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QUICK LINKS

www.australiangifted.support.com

www.starjump.com.au

www.nswagtc.org.au

www.gifteddevelopment.com

www.eyecanlearn.com

www.fortoptom.com.au



CAMPS

Camps provide gifted children with the opportunity to spend

June 2010 update

Since the last update we have run two weekend camps, an information evening in Canberra and several In School enrichment days.

A feature of all these programs is that they allow children and parents to spend time with other likeminded people and to learn about things of mutual interest.

The evening seminar which focused on 2E children and the underachievement they often experience as well as the impact of sensory sensitivity on daily life and learning. These were well received and will be offered again later in the year both in Sydney and Canberra. Dates and venues will be announced on the website shortly.

Feedback we received about this evening included...

"Thank you for the seminar on Sensory sensitivities - Sometimes it is easy to forget that a child with sensory processing issues is not just being naughty or a drama queen, they really just can't tolerate some situations. One thing that makes this harder is that with my child, they can be sensory craving sometimes and sensory avoiding at other times so sometimes a situation is OK and other times it's not"

The camps were also a chance for families to spend time together and with other families. We had about 50 children and parents at each camp.

One family's feedback was...

"I was somewhat concerned how my child would cope in such an extreme change in routine, however, the way the camp was run certainly helped to lower their anxiety levels. They didn't feel forced into any of the activities, which I believe made them more comfortable in participating, and although they were fairly quiet during workshops, the barrage of information since returning home has shown me that they certainly absorbed everything going on around them. The children were very respectful of each other - which is fabulous for a child whose usual interactions with other peers is fraught with bullying and harassment. The camp more than met my expectations."

Our new theme of Bugs Life for the Enrichment Days and ACT Camp was very popular. Discovering and collecting a large range of bugs was certainly a popular feature of the camp.

Feedback from families who attended the Enrichment workshops included...

"thank you for a great day my son has been sharing lots of the new things he learned and can't wait till the next workshop"

time with likeminded peers. They can engage in interesting or challenging activities and fun social experiences which is vital for their wellbeing. Themes of camps range from Harry Potter to Time Travelling and incorporate activities around reading, creativity, space and science.

For the first time, AGSC is bringing camps to NSW, ACT, VIC and WA.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Social skills are the foundation stone of a child's development. With better developed social skills children can have greater school success, increase their independence, interact with others more positively and establish and maintain quality friendships.

The Stepping Stones program is a specially designed course aimed to teach strategies to support gifted students in the development of pro-social skills, emotional regulation, anger management, friendship building, conflict resolution, anti-bullying strategies and 'getting along' skills.

Our aim is to develop an individualized social skills program that is tailored to meet the needs of each child.

STARJUMP

Starjump creates Self-awareness in children by Teaching them to Accept themselves for who they are while Recognizing their strengths. Through teaching them how to Juggle life's challenges using their strengths they will Uncover their skills and be adequately Motivated to achieve the Performance /dream that they are

"my daughter enjoyed the chance to work at an accelerated level without disruption of others with behavior issues"

And after the 'My Cooking Rules' workshops...

"I was surprised that there was a greater range of activities than I'd expected, not just cooking but nutrition, marketing, packaging, and business profit & loss, etc"

"My daughter really enjoyed herself and she has had lots of insightful questions/comments on a wide range of topics since the workshop"

"Thank you very much, your programs are inspirational!"

Article: Young Gifted Children

As we approach the second half of the year I'm receiving an increasing number of enquiries related to schooling decisions for next year. As is usually the case in June and July families are starting to think about whether their pre-schooler should start school next year or whether their school aged child is at the best school, whether they should request a particular teacher or whether they should be investigating the possibility of acceleration.

To assist you in considering these questions we have a variety of articles on the website.

- Recognising Giftedness; Importance of Early Identification of Giftedness; Giftedness in Young Children all : by Dr Linda K Silverman
- Relocation or Replacement; Unique Need Unique Response : by Helen Dudeney
- S'cool Moves - You and Your Child's Health : by Dr Susan Johnson

[View these articles and more >](#)

There are also some useful articles at the [NSW Association website](#).

If acceleration is of interest to you there is a Power Point that has been prepared by the Acceleration Institute at the Belin Blank Centre in Iowa University and can be viewed free of charge. There are also links to other research on this topic on the [Acceleration Institute website](#).

In addition to your reading and research you could also organize a consultation to discuss your ideas and consider the possible advocacy strategies you could use. This could include the use of the IOWA Acceleration Scale which provides more objective analysis of the factors relevant to a decision about acceleration.

Coming events - Holiday programs

7th July, Linfield Public School

Grades 2-6 Theme: Dragonology & a Belt or a Quest
To book visit dragonology.eventbrite.com

Grades 3-6 Theme: Brain Benders Challenge

aiming for.

The aim of the assessments is to identify highlight strengths in your child and also any possible learning differences, or issues, they are facing that might impact on their development. These will then be analysed and a formal written report will be completed. This process will enable us to provide a comprehensive program that meets the specific needs of your child.

In addition to this we will also be starting to offer a computer based literacy program which also offers access to modules in behaviour, emotions, social skills and attention. This program is suitable for all children who are not reaching their potential and is particularly visual in its orientation.



To book visit brainbenders.eventbrite.com

Coming events - ACT workshops

3rd August, St Thomas the Apostle - ACT

Grades K-2 Theme: Up Up and Away (The physics of flight)

To book visit upupandaway.eventbrite.com

4th August, St Thomas the Apostle - ACT

Grades 3-6 Theme: Up Up and Away (The physics of flight)

To book visit upupandaway3-6stthomas.eventbrite.com

10th August, St Matthew's - ACT

Grades K-2 Dragonology

To book visit dragonologystmatts.eventbrite.com

11th August, St Matthew's - ACT

Grades 3-6 Dragonology

To book visit dragonology3-6stmatts.eventbrite.com

24th August, St Anthony's - ACT

Grades K-2 Dragonology

To book visit dragonologysaps.eventbrite.com

25th August, St Anthony's - ACT

Grades 3-6 Dragonology

To book visit dragonologysaps3-6.eventbrite.com

7th September, St Clare of Assisi - ACT

Grades K-2 A Bugs Life

To book visit abugslife.eventbrite.com

8th September, St Clare of Assisi - ACT

Grades 3-6 A Bugs Life

To book visit abugslifesca3-6.eventbrite.com

Coming events - Camps

Morisset 17th - 19th September, 2010 WEC Camp

Theme: Calling all Time Travellers - Space and Science

To book visit timetravellerssept2010.eventbrite.com

Victoria 15th - 17th October, 2010

Theme: Harry P and the Professors - Hogwarts in the Melbourne Hills

To book visit harrypcamp2010vic.eventbrite.com

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