



enabling every child to learn



▶ OUR VISION IS TO ENABLE EVERY CHILD TO LEARN TO HIS OR HER FULL POTENTIAL



▶ OUR MISSION IS TO MAKE THE MOVE TO LEARN MOVEMENT SEQUENCES AVAILABLE TO EVERY CHILD IN EVERY CLASSROOM

○ October | ○ Missile | ○ 2008

Missile e-mail

Greetings Everyone,

Barbara is presently back in Fiji working on her current writing project, but there are a few things we'd like to share with you.

Research 2008

We are now collecting the last of the data for our 2008 research project! It is being turned over to the university for processing & we are excited to see the results.

THANK YOU to everyone who participated! We understand that it required extra administrative effort from each of you, but it will reap benefits not only in your own individual classrooms but hopefully in future classrooms around Australia & World wide!

Special thanks to Stacey, Joanne & Dr Chapparo for their tireless work & inspiration.

Kids First Campaign

We have been approached to give our support to the 'Kids First Campaign', which is a national campaign to ask the federal government to ban the use of 6 food additives which have recently been shown to be harmful to children & causing very bad effects on their health & behaviour. As many of you know, we have long been aware of the equally harmful effects such additives also have on children's learning, so we are more than happy to support this campaign.

These additives, (Tartrazine, Quinoline Yellow, Sunset yellow, Carmoisine, Ponceau Red & Allura red), have been banned in Europe, the UK & the USA, with plenty of research to link them to hyperactivity, rashes, allergies, asthma & stomach upsets, but still we allow them in our country to poison our children. They are not needed or necessary. Alternatives are available.

Campaigns such as the Kids First Campaign are an effective way to get them out of our food & keep them out!

They have an informative website where you learn more about additives & the harm they do, & they will also be organising an online petition.

www.additivealert.com.au

Putting your name down to make a change will only take a few minutes, but it could save a lot of pain & time later on.



Gems From The Fiji Seminar

Many pearls of wisdom were shared during our Fijian seminar, & those participating have graciously decided to share some of that with you. Over the next few months, we plan to feature some of these special people so that you can get to know them & benefit from what they have to offer as well. We strongly feel that it is only when we work together, pool our resources & our knowledge & our encouragement, that we will find the most effective solutions for the children we are trying to help. There is no order, priority or hierarchy in how we present these good people - purely a matter of who we have managed to get ready first. This month's featured pioneer is:



Marlene Rattigan

B.A., Dip. Ed. (ECS), CELTA

'kidz-fiz-biz'

Music & Movement

ABN: 95 028 949 905

Marlene Rattigan is an Early Childhood teacher with an extensive background in music. She is also a teacher of English as a Second Language & an AFAC accredited fitness leader.

These combined skills, together with a keen interest in motor development in children, led to the creation of the **Kidz-Fiz-Biz** programs & the writing of two books;

- 'Kidz-Fiz-Biz - learning through drama, dance & song', & also
- 'Kidz-Fiz-Biz Multicultural - learning about other cultures through drama, dance & song'.

Marlene's vision is to see children all over the world learn, grow & develop through the use of music & physical activity. Her current project is the development of resources for countries that do not have English as their first language.

At the seminar in Fiji, Marlene shared a little of her expertise with us, & we will share a little of that with you. For more information, visit her website, www.kidzfizbiz.com, or contact her personally.



Incorporating Music & Movement into the Early Childhood Classroom - by Marlene Rattigan



Young children learn by doing, by being actively involved in their own learning through exploring & experimenting, through copying & acting out. And so it is with learning music, the foundations for which are best learnt while developing primary language. As such, a successful early childhood music program must incorporate movement (including dance) & should quite naturally involve learning across the curriculum. The music program, therefore, can & should form the basis for the whole curriculum. It is important to bear in mind that not every child will naturally take to singing or learning to play a musical instrument, but EVERY child has the right to a musical education. Physical expression through dance & drama is the way some children prefer to enjoy their musical experience.

In musical interpretation there should be no pressure on the child to "get it right" because there is no right or wrong but simply the joy of participation. It is for this reason that the creative arts are such successful bridges to learning. More importantly, when a child feels successful at something, enjoys it & is not stressed by it, the child gains enormous confidence.

Music is a universal language. Teaching the music, songs & dances of other cultures should simply be another aspect of the music & movement program. Children need to be exposed to other cultures in a positive & affirming way in order to gain awareness, understanding & acceptance of others. They need to be made aware that somewhere in another corner of the world children are also singing songs, chanting rhymes, playing games, dancing & generally having fun. In this way inherent social values are gained, especially discovering that difference simply means diversity. Thus, it encourages a sense of harmony & inclusion rather than discrimination and distrust. Studies show that exposing children to the sound, rhythm & intonation of language & music from diverse cultures assists them to discriminate between sounds. This assists with the acquisition of linguistic skills.

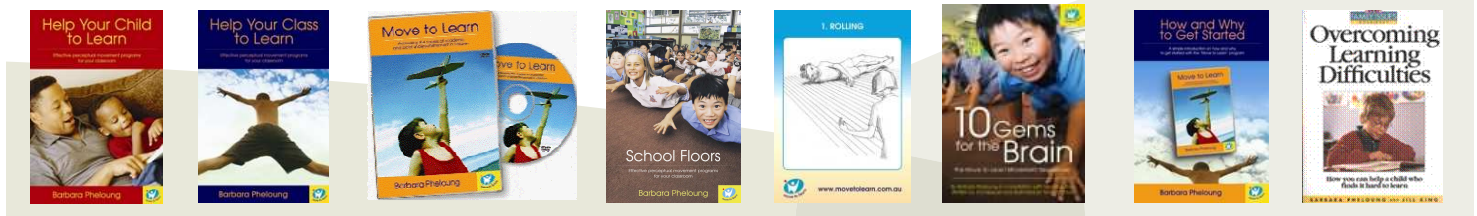


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Until Next Month, Keep on Rolling!

From The Move to Learn Team
Barbara, Jini, Stacey, Rick & Nikki



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