



enabling every child to learn



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

○ December | ○ Missile | ○ 2008



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

Missile e-mail

Merry Christmas

We're in our new home!

Finally, the boxes are unpacked, the internet is connected, the fax is operational & we're settling in nicely in our new premises in Belrose.

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Primitive Reflexes & Their Impact on Learning



An interesting article by Mary Mountstephen MA (SEN) Associate Member of British Dyslexia Association

Click [here](#) to read this article.



Yummy Mummies Morning

Last week, Barbara was asked to speak at a Mum's group on the Northern Beaches at Christian City Church, Oxford Falls. 60 mums & 60 kids attended. There was child minding for the kids, whilst Barbara shared with the mothers. Barbara even got some of the mums down on the floor doing the movements having a lot of fun & laughs.

The response was wonderful, & many great connections were made. Lots of books & DVDs were purchased, which is exciting because that represents a sincere determination by many of the mums to look into the program for answers for their individual children.

Many thanks to Stacey for her enthusiastic support!



Barbara in action with some of the Yummy Mummies rolling



Two of the Yummy Mummies with baby Evie

News from Western Australia

This is a letter written to our amazing Move to Learn lady in Western Australia, by a teacher, Charm.

Hi Winsome,

This is a quick rundown of what we are doing at Toodyay District High School.

After attending your PD days last year I decided that I could run the Move to Learn program with students I teach from Year 4-7 who have reading ages below their

chronological ages eg. Between - 1 year below to - 3 years below. In total I taught approx. 25 students in semester two. After four months the improvement in reading ages ranged from no gain at all to improving by 2yrs 3mths. The average gain in reading ages in the year 4/5 was 6 months & the year 6/7 was 1 year.

In Semester one of 2008 the improvement was exactly the same, with the same range & results with the same group of students. So, I in fact had the majority of them involved with the program for 12 months.

Classroom teachers noted a general improvement in most learning areas & attitude to school.

In term two 2008 a year 1 teacher 'desperately' wanted me to teach her & the whole class at the same time as she had a third of her students that had learning difficulties or lacked physical co-ordination. After 10 weeks the improvements were really noticeable especially with physical co-ordination & happier people (the teacher, Jo, was astounded.) She was so enthused that she attended your PD at Guildford Landing & happily continues with her class & extending the program to include equipment & obstacle courses.

At much the same time Dixie, with a year 1 / 2 class, began with me helping & then she felt confident to continue on her own. Dixie attended your PD last year as well as this year.

The classroom teachers would be more qualified to explain the individual improvements to you & would be happy to do so if you would like.

The principal & the administration team have written the program into the school plan for the next 3 years. The aim is to have all staff up skilled in Move to Learn & all classes from K -7 actively participating by 2011. Parents will also be given a workshop about food, food additives, vision, hearing, chiropractor, etc. In the fortnightly newsletter we are also going to put some information a little at a time & hopefully some parents will take the time to read it.



News from Western Australia continued...



This semester the three of us are teaching a Kindy class & two pre-primary classes & their teachers & assistants the Move to Learn program. Next year we will teach the four year 2/3 classes, then the year 4/5 classes & finally the year 6/7 classes in 2011.

I also work with one year 1 student who last year in P-P was uncooperative, inaudible, hit others & couldn't write at all. After one semester with him, he now speaks clearly, smiles, doesn't hit others, counts to 100, reads & writes & can tie his own shoelaces! I will continue with him until the end of the year.

*Hope this has been a bit informative!
Thanks for your help Winsome.*

Regards,
Charm

More News from WA



We had 47 people attend the 2008 WA seminar plus our 8 volunteers & the speakers. The attendees came from a range of expertise & from many different parts of Western Australia plus three ladies travelling all the way from Victoria to attend.

There were Teachers, Education Assistants, OT Kinesiologist/Holistic Therapist, Home Makers, Mums, Students, Nurse, Education Consultants, Lecturer, Author, Deputy Principal, Masseuse, plus our wonderful speakers.

We had many very positive responses with one attendee saying it was the best she had attended. Another remarked it was a wonderful array of speakers. Another teacher said she was now inspired to try many new things for her children.

Congratulations on a job well done WA Move to Learn team!

From back left to right
Dot, Laurel B & Neil B
Ray & Winsome
Margaret & Davina



The Attendees &
Team of the 2008
Move to Learn in WA
seminar.

Also from WA...

Warren Blackwood Education District Nomination For Educational Excellence Award 2008

A wonderful teacher in WA, Michele Schmidt, who teaches at Pemberton District High School has been nominated for this award. Michele has implemented the Move to Learn program into her Junior Primary school classes after attending the WA Move to Learn seminar. Already, some significant results have been experienced by the children involved & the teachers observing their learning within the classroom. Some of these include improved concentration, greater co-ordination, ability to sit still for longer periods of time, producing more work & showing a faster rate of progress in reading. Success was demonstrated when their ability to concentrate & co-operate within the normal classroom setting was observed. It is due to these results & the success of the program, that she has been nominated for the Excellence Award.

Congratulations Michele!!

Move to Learn Information Weekend at Smart Brain/Smart Body Centre



Don't miss out on this exciting weekend co-ordinated by Julia Dive.

As a Teacher's Aide Special, Julia has been working with children with learning difficulties for over 10 years. She's a trained Irlen Screener, & is also trained in two sorts of Sound Therapy. At the Smart Brain/Smart Body centre she offers assessments, Move to Learn in small groups, one to one Extra Lesson sessions & tutoring in maths up to HSC level.

The centre's approach is to concentrate on the whole child & support the parents & family of the child.

This weekend will give you;

- * background information
- * the chance to practise the exercises & improve your confidence to implement Move to Learn in your Home, School, Preschool, Family Day Care or Community setting.

10th & 11th January 2009
9am – 5pm Saturday, 10am – 3 pm Sunday.
Smart Brain/Smart Body Centre
Bega NSW
\$150 (including Morning/Afternoon Teas & Lunches)
12 places available

For more details contact Julia Dive
SMART BRAIN/SMART BODY
jnrdiv@bigfoot.com
sb-sb@dodo.com.au

Gems From The Fiji Seminar

This month's 'Pearl from the Fijian Seminar' comes from Julia Dive, who did an amazing job helping to organise the seminar & ensure that it ran smoothly. We're very excited to be able to share it with you.

Setting Up a Centre by Julia Dive

This is an example of a centre that is community based & has been running for nearly 30 years. Wendy Pittendrigh from W.A, sent me this information just before the Fiji Seminar. It's amazing!

"SKAMP stands for "Schools of Kalamunda Area Motor Programme" (Kalamunda being a suburb in the Perth hills). It was started in 1980 & has been going continuously ever since. I think that Barbara came up for a visit in the early 1990s with Janice Marshall (then with SPELD).

Joy Jones (now 86) used to run a motor program from her home in Hilton & a hills resident, Suzanne Cavanagh, used to take her son Jon down to Joy every Saturday. It took her an hour each way to drive him, & he had a 1 hour session. Thus Suzanne spent 3 hours every Saturday, mainly in the car. She asked Joy if she knew anyone in the hills who could run something similar. They held meetings with all the local schools to identify children who might benefit from the program, found 2 teachers- Jean Howie & Jenny Andrews- to run it, & got permission to have the children come out of school for their 1 hour session.

Gems From The Fiji Seminar

continued...

At first, the local Church of Christ hall was the venue, but wasn't very satisfactory as all the equipment had to be taken away as the hall was used by other groups. Then an unused old hall was found & provided rent-free by the local shire, & the adjacent scout group allowed the trampoline to be used in their hall during the day. A system of pulleys was installed to raise it to lean against the wall when not in use (the legs were removable). This was a time consuming & very inconvenient thing to do daily, & eventually after much fundraising, & assistance from the shire, Lions & Rotary, an extension was built which houses the gym, including the trampoline.

No fees were charged at the beginning, but it was found that people then took advantage & didn't turn up, etc. So a small fee was charged, the organisation was incorporated & a constitution drawn up. It is registered as a charity which means that people can claim tax deductions for donations (not that many do) & we have to submit annual audited accounts to state Dept for Consumer Protection. It also means we have to have P/L insurance which now costs \$850 in addition to the \$560 for burglary, fire, etc.

Now there are two teachers running the program- Dianne Fyfe & Wendy Pittendrigh- & the centre operates from 9-5.30 on Tuesdays & Thursdays. There are 34 students- 5 girls & 29 boys. The age range is from 5 to 14 - with the majority being 10 & under. Length of attendance is often around a year, but this varies considerably. The students come out of school for their 1 hour session- which means most are out of school for 1 1/2 hours including driving time.

Referrals come from teachers, education assistants, parents or other professionals such as optometrists & speech pathologists. We sometimes refer in return to professionals. A child is assessed by us before entering the program. Assessment covers dominance & laterality, gross and fine motor movements, and a very basic assessment of visual and auditory perception. A detailed background sheet on their early history is completed also.

There seems to be a good success rate with students being able to reach their potential after following the program.

The program uses the MTL sequences, trampoline sequences & other gross motor movements often done in sequence. One thing that we feel is important is that the laterality is consistent, so we encourage use of one hand (depending on the assessment which will indicate the dominant hand) & foot. We help with both gross & fine motor skills & also help with reading, maths & spelling in particular.

Equipment is varied- some follows the PMP models from the books by Bullus & Coles. Others have been acquired gradually over time."

What a great resource for their community to have!

We all know that Move to Learn is a stand alone, no equipment required, do it on a postage stamp kind of program. A success in its own right. But it also dovetails very nicely with other Sensory Integration Programs, each complementing & strengthening the results of the other.

Since I am in the throes of opening a Centre & because we had such a great, experienced group of professionals at the seminar I decided to brainstorm the needs of a Centre in 3 categories: Equipment, Administration, Attitude. - no point re-inventing the wheel!

Here are the results.

Equipment (in no particular order)

CD player	bean bag	punching bag	tunnel
trampoline	ladder	target swing	fabric sausage skin
parachute	skipping rope	stairs	bubble wrap
blanket	balance beam	mat	barrel
gym ball	foam off cuts	mirror	tactile board
scooter board	sand tray	wedges	masking tape
balance board	blocks	flashlights	DVD player
hammock	jungle gym	fabrics -tactile bath	balls

Gems From The Fiji Seminar continued...

Administration

accountant	first aid training
web designer	secretary
web manager	diary system
insurance -trampoline is an issue	lap top ...computer stuff
child protection paper work	newsletter

Attitude

positive image –child always succeeds	parent support group
realistic goals	parent's questionnaire
professional networks	

Since I particularly want the hallmark of my Centre to be about Parent Support, in true Fijian (no longer canabalistic) style, I thought I would pick their brains on this subject too.

Nurturing Parents

education talks	incidental mingling
nutrition	celebration sessions
cooking demos	working bees
books	parents at sessions
free body massage	small siblings catered for
info night	

I was really happy with the results of the brain storming. If you are thinking of opening up a Centre, or just extending what you have already started, then here are lots of great ideas. But, don't forget, that to start Move to Learn in your local community you don't need any equipment or money you just need passion & a floor!

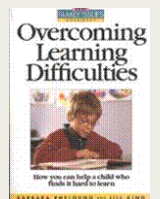
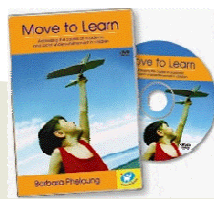
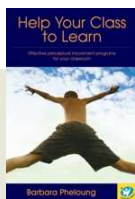
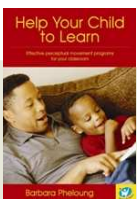
— Julia Dive —



**Merry Christmas everyone.
Until 2009, we wish you all the very best**



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



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