



Kindy
Speld
QLD

Professional Development Workshops

- All participants are asked to have a pen for activities and their phone to scan a QR code.
- For face-to-face delivery, a space that has a screen to show the workshop slides is needed. (Please advise us if you need us to bring a projector.)
- Workshops are most effective when educators can participate fully, and children are not present.

The Early Years Bridge to Literacy

The bridge to literacy is an important journey that children walk, each in their own way. Educators in early childhood play a vital role in supporting children as they begin to explore language and literacy skills in authentic, play-based environments. This workshop will give an overview of six critical areas for literacy development, giving examples of practical application of these skills. It will also focus on what can impact literacy acquisition and help educators reflect on their current practice.

90
minutes

Phonological and Phonemic Awareness

Phonological awareness, particularly phonemic awareness, is critical to the development of effective early literacy skills. It is a strong predictor of later literacy success. This workshop will develop participants' understanding of the range of phonological skills and will identify ways educators can integrate phonological development, in play-based ways. It is a 'hands on' workshop designed for educators to explore practical ways phonological awareness can be embedded into their daily programs.

90
minutes

Language Development

This workshop focuses on language development in the early years by exploring the milestones of language acquisition and the factors that influence language growth. Factors that impact language development, such as Developmental Language Disorder, Gestalt language processing and multilingual language learners will be identified. Educators are provided with practical strategies to support language development within daily play-based contexts.

90
minutes





Professional Development Workshops

Speech Sound Development

This workshop offers educators insight into speech sound development in children. Designed to bridge the gap between speech therapy and early learning environments, it aims to equip teachers with the knowledge and tools necessary to support and enhance their students' speech sound skills. Participants will explore the milestones of speech sound development, the distinction between typical variations and disorders, and the impact of speech sound errors. The workshop will explore supports and strategies suitable for kindergarten children.

60
minutes

Building Vocabulary

Developing vocabulary is a critical area of language and literacy experiences. Expanding a child's knowledge of words provides unlimited access to new information and helps children to think and learn about the world. The size of a child's vocabulary in kindergarten can impact early literacy skills as they transition to school. This workshop will enhance educators' understanding of the role of vocabulary and will give practical strategies for including vocabulary experiences in daily Kindy contexts.

60
minutes

Language Growth Through Literature

Using picture books to help children explore language is an excellent way of developing critical literacy skills. Foundational aspects such as concepts of print, phonological awareness, phonemic awareness and vocabulary can be intentionally taught as Kindy teachers share stories and information texts with their learners. This workshop will give educators a range of practical ideas for using literature and will explore a range of high-quality picture books and associated word play resources available from Speld Qld's Kindy library.

60
minutes





Kindy
Speld
QLD

Professional Development Workshops

Enhancing Communication Through Visual Supports

This workshop is a hands-on session designed for Kindy educators to explore the power of Key Word Sign and visual supports in fostering communication. Through interactive activities, participants will practice using Key Word Sign and visual aids during play and songs, discovering practical strategies to integrate them seamlessly into everyday routines. This workshop emphasises practical learning, empowering educators to create inclusive, language-rich environments that support all children's communication development.

90
minutes

Supporting Emotional Literacy Through Language

This workshop highlights the power of language in understanding and supporting children's emotions and behavior. Learn how behaviour communicates unmet needs, the role of language in helping children articulate feelings, and practical strategies to nurture vocabulary and communication skills that support emotional understanding and self-regulation. Perfect for educators and caregivers looking to bridge language and emotional growth.

90
minutes

Multilingual Language Learners

This workshop is specifically designed for educators working in increasingly multicultural and multilingual early learning environments. It aims to shed light on the intricacies of multilingual language development in children, emphasizing the unique challenges and opportunities it presents within educational settings. By focusing on evidence-based research, this workshop equips participants with a deeper understanding of how children acquire multiple languages, the normal patterns of language development in multilingual contexts, and how to distinguish between a language difference and a language disorder. Participants will also learn practical strategies for supporting multilingual learners.

60
minutes

