



**GIFTED RESOURCES NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2010 NO 1**

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**PO BOX 4176
CROYDON HILLS
VIC 3136**

Gifted Resources News

FEBRUARY – Back to school time. Usually I try to catch up with the teachers, psychologists and education consultant contacts to see whether the information I have about them is correct.

I have contacted some of them this year and have heard of many exciting additions and changes which are included in this edition of the newsletter. But there are so many I have not contacted yet. So please could you all check whether the information I have needs to be updated.

If you have already produced a calendar of events for 2010 and would like it included as a link on the Calendars page of Gifted Resources website please email me with the details.

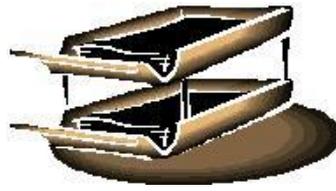
To read about Gifted Resources Events planned for the first half of 2010 see

<http://www.giftedresources.org/gr/events.htm>

I have included the Critical Agendas flyer in this issue. If you have problems reading it, you can also find a link to it on Gifted Resources Home page and Events page.

During the holidays I began to collect some of my bookmarked websites on the social bookmarking site Delicious - you can find them at

<http://delicious.com/jofreitag>



WHAT'S IN THE IN TRAY?

These items have been received recently and can be found in the In Tray which is located on the Home page of Gifted Resources Website www.giftedresources.org The links in the newsletter are not live – please go to the In Tray to access them

If you would like information included in the newsletter and/or the In Tray please send to contributions@giftedresources.org

G.A.T.E.WAYS BRAINWAVES CLUB 2010 [PDF FLYER](#)

NSWAGTC Inc DR. DEBORAH L. RUF Wesley Lodge Conference Centre Westmead 8 February 2010
[WEBSITE PDF FLYER](#)

ADAVIC Lecture - Parenting Support Strategies - School Refusal - 24 Feb 2010 [WEBPAGE](#)

DR DEBORAH RUF IN PERTH For details contact Jo Muir Email jomuir@injaz.com.au

CRITICAL AGENDAS Success in teaching twice exceptional children Jo Freitag & Maxine Cowie 11-12 March 2010 PDF [FLYER](#)

GIFTED SUPPORT NETWORK Penny Willoughby Spot The Difference - A Practical Approach To Differentiation For Gifted Children 18 March 2010 [PDF FLYER](#)

CHIP WEEK OUT AUTUMN HOLIDAY PROGRAM 2010 [FLYER](#)

ACE2010 Digital Diversity Conference Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre 6-9 April 2010 [WEBSITE](#)

SCRATCH DAY 22 May 2010 [WEBSITE](#)

COMPUTER GAMES BOOT CAMP MONASH UNIVERSITY 3-9 July 2010 [WEBSITE](#)

11th ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE GIFTED 2010 SYDNEY 29 July - 1 August 2010 [WEBSITE](#)
Call for Papers [WEBSITE](#)

11th International Conference of The Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project
Turning Dreams into Reality: Transformations and Paradigm Shifts in Mathematics Education
Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa September 10– 16, 2011 Preliminary Announcement and Call for Papers [FLYER](#)

FEBRUARY

GUEST SPEAKER
SALLY-ANNE McCORMACK
STOMP OUT THE ANTs



Friday 19 February 2010

7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Centre for the Exceptional Learner Luther College Plymouth Rd Croydon Vic 3136

Cost: \$20.00

Sally-Anne McCormack (psychologist, media consultant, former teacher) has published her first book – “Stomp Out The ANTs”. ANTs (Automatic Negative Thoughts) are annoying creatures that trouble everyone! This simple guide is effective due to its content and the practical writing style of the author, and can be referred to by anyone who is dealing with a plague of ANTs!

During this presentation, Sally-Anne will talk about the analogy of the ANTs – everyone gets them, they are hard to get rid of, and we often don't notice them until there is a huge pile of black pests hiding all of the good things underneath them. She will describe some popular strategies to “stomp” out the ANTs, and ways of helping yourself to prevent future infestations! If you have ever been anxious, depressed, or had any negative thoughts, then this presentation is for you!

TO BOOK OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CONTACT GIFTED RESOURCES BY 17.03.201
Phone (03) 97242452
Email jo@giftedresources.org

Critical Agendas

"When Knowledge and Foresight are Paramount"

Success in Teaching

Twice-Exceptional Children!

Why do some students apply little or no effort to school tasks while they commit considerable time and effort to demanding, creative activities outside of school? These behaviours are typical of some students who are simultaneously gifted and learning disabled. For many people, however, the terms learning disabilities and giftedness are at opposite ends of a learning continuum.

Who are the Twice-Exceptional (2E) Children?

Children who are both gifted and learning disabled exhibit remarkable talents or strengths in some areas and disabling weaknesses in others. They can be grouped into three categories: 1. Identified gifted students who have subtle learning disabilities. 2. Unidentified students whose gifts and disabilities may be masked by average achievement. 3. Identified learning disabled students who are also gifted.

For Primary and
Secondary Teachers

Thursday March 11th &
Friday March 12th, 2010

Come to One or Both days !

Edis Melbourne Glen Waverley
297 Springvale Rd, Glen Waverley

PD Hours: 12 hours

Facilitators:
Jo Freitag and Maxine Cowie

Website: www.criticalagendas.com.au

Enquiries: Ph. 1800 538 603

Email: admin@criticalagendas.com.au

In this workshop you will learn effective strategies and skills to re engage 2E students who have disengaged from learning because of learning difficulties, learning differences or behavioural issues.



Free Parking in the underground car park !

Complete details next page

Success in Teaching Twice-Exceptional (2E) Students!

FD-18c 12 hrs

TIMETABLE for Both Days

Registration: 8:45am - 9:00am Session 1: 9:15am - 11:00am
 MORNING TEA: 11:00am - 11:30am Session 2: 11:30am - 1:00pm
 LUNCH: 1:00pm - 1:30pm Session 3: 1:45pm - 3:15pm

Day One- Thursday March 11th, 2010

Facilitator - Jo Freitag

This workshop uses Edward De Bono's Six Action Steps planning theory and Gagne's Differentiation Model of Giftedness and Talent to investigate types of gifted programs and their suitability for Twice Exceptional students who are gifted and also have a learning disability or difference. Characteristics of these students will be discussed. Practical application exercises will give workshop participants the opportunity to plan programs and teaching strategies for specific 2E students. Social emotional and learning environment issues will also be discussed using thinking tools such as S.C.A.M.P.E.R. and links to valuable resources will be provided.

Day Two-Friday March 12th, 2010

Facilitator - Maxine Cowie

This workshop will equip teachers with the understanding and skills needed to re engage students who have disengaged from learning because of learning difficulties, learning differences or behavioural issues. Teachers will be empowered to deal effectively and positively with those students who cause the most trouble in the classroom. We will focus on the bright ones, who are disruptive, good at avoiding work, who are poorly organized, those who can't work independently and who do not produce work to the standard they are capable of. Find out what causes disengagement from learning and what kids need to be re engaged. Take away strategies to use and the skills and understanding needed to develop your own strategy. Learn how to get the best from the most difficult students!

Book by Fax or Mail!

A letter of confirmation will be sent to the school

Cost One person attending ONE day: \$229 **All prices GST Incl.**
 One person attending BOTH days: \$379
 Two people each attending ONE day \$229 ea
 NB: Two people attending one day each in place of an original booking for one person over 2 days: \$229 ea

Critical Agendas Office: 107 McKillop St, Geelong, 3220
 Postal address: P.O. Box 1407 Geelong 3220
 Phone: 1800 638 012 Fax: 1800 638 021
 Email: admin@criticalagendas.com.au

As applications for this program will be accepted until all spaces have been filled. Unsuccessful applicants will have their names referred to full consideration prior to February 25th, 2010. will incur a 15% service charge per applicant. No refunds will be issued for non-attendance on or after February 25th, 2010. or for failure to attend the program. In the event of modified applications this program will not proceed until registration closes for fully allocated. All cancellations need to be written and mailed to us. In the event of this program being cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances registration money only will be refunded as Critical Agendas will not accept liability for the payment of any other associated costs. Where a booking is made for one person to attend the faculty program but results in the attendance of two individuals (one day each) for students classes, a charge of 2 x \$229 will apply. Critical Agendas reserves the right to vary the scheduled program prior to commencement. **1800 638 012**

Jo Freitag, who is the mother of four gifted children coordinates the Information Service, *Gifted Awareness* which has an office at The Centre for the Exceptional Learner, Luther College, Croydon, Victoria. Jo has worked in public and school libraries and has home-educated two of her children at secondary level. She produces the *Gifted Awareness* website and newsletter, develops the *Gifted Resource Files* Discussion series and has given presentations at Teacher professional development sessions, *Gifted Education* Conferences and national and international Homeschooling Conferences.

Maxine Cowie, Director of Starjump embarked on a journey to find practical and effective teaching methods for visual spatial learners, which makes up an estimated 30% of the population. This arose from her experience with working with atypical children, who are predominantly visual spatial learners and experiencing the ineffectiveness of traditional teaching methods with these children. Visual spatial learners often struggle in the classroom and end up being labeled as trouble makers and difficult students. Maxine has developed a holistic program for visual spatial learners which has been successfully implemented in schools in Victoria and NSW. Maxine currently trains teachers in her techniques so that they can run the program within their school environment. Her passion is to ensure student's learn and gain self confidence by using their cognitive strengths and passions so that they experience success both in the school environment and in their lives.

Thursday March 11th - Friday March 12th, 2010

Ibis Melbourne Glen Waverley

297 Springvale Rd, Glen Waverley (Ph. 9518 7111)

Cost includes: Program, issued notes, participative certificate, morning tea and lunch.

Registration Form - may be photocopied (Tax Invoice)

Success in Teaching Twice-Exceptional Students! 6 PD hrs per day

Ibis Melbourne Glen Waverley, Vic. **Thurs March 11th - Fri March 12th, 2010**

Please complete and fax or mail to: \$229 per person per day
 \$379 per person for 2 days

CRITICAL AGENDAS
 P.O. BOX 1407 GEELONG 3220

FAX: 1800 638 021

All prices GST Incl.

Name/s (Please Print Clearly and in CAPITALS) Please tick when attending:

1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Day One <input type="checkbox"/> Day Two
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Day One <input type="checkbox"/> Day Two
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Day One <input type="checkbox"/> Day Two
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Day One <input type="checkbox"/> Day Two
5. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Day One <input type="checkbox"/> Day Two

School: _____

School Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Ph: _____

Mob. Phone: _____ Fax: _____

1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____

Please specify any special dietary needs: _____

All prices GST Incl.

School Order No. _____

Critical Agendas ABN 14 100 211 703

A letter of confirmation will be sent to the school

Declined payment for 2 _____ payable to CRITICAL AGENDAS or please debit my

card via Mastercard Visa to \$ _____

Name on Card: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Signature: _____

JUNE

GUEST SPEAKER

DR. GAIL BYRNE

YOU HAVE AN ASSESSMENT - WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Friday 18 June 2010

7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Centre for the Exceptional Learner Luther College Plymouth Rd Croydon Vic 3136

Cost: \$20.00

Having had an assessment of your child you should now have a report which contains some educational recommendations.

What do you do with that report?

To whom do you hand the report?

What can you expect from the school if you hand them the report?

When is acceleration (grade advancement) likely to be considered an option by a school?

How do schools view it? How can you achieve it if it is considered appropriate for your child?

What is an IEP or ILP – does your child need one?

Dr Gail Byrne

As a psychologist Gail operates a private consultancy specialising in the IQ assessment of children and adolescents and consults to a number of schools about their testing programs and the identification and management of exceptional children who may be challenging and complex and need individual education programs developed.

Gail's involvement in the gifted field started some 20 years ago. She has been involved with the CHIP Foundation since 1989 and was elected Chairperson in 2001, a role she still holds.

After completing a Master of Education (1992) in curriculum differentiation, and a Graduate Diploma in Counselling (1995), Gail was awarded a Doctorate in Psychology in 2002 for her research into the levels of academic achievement and underachievement in a group of 50 children with IQs ranging between 125 and 200.

Gail is sought after as a speaker on giftedness, underachievement and testing; has completed a DEET project on giftedness and has authored a number of papers on exceptional children.

As a registered psychologist, practising teacher and parent of two gifted children (now adults) she has developed a quite unique understanding of intellectual giftedness.

**TO BOOK OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CONTACT GIFTED RESOURCES BY 16.06.2010**

Phone (03) 97242452

Email jo@giftedresources.org



GIFTED SUPPORT NETWORK

www.giftedsupport.org

Presents

Penny Willoughby

B. Ed. Primary, First Class Honours

“Spot The Difference - A Practical Approach To Differentiation For Gifted Children”

Thursday 18 March, 2010, 7.45 - 9.30pm

When I go to my Pilates class, the teacher gives us a huge range of options and encourages us to work at our own level. This is the standard practice for this teacher; not a special occurrence. Naturally we all work at our own pace and level because we all have such different needs. This is not unlike differentiation in the classroom. It needs to be the way we teach all the time and if done properly, will cater suitably for all students. This is readily accepted for children with learning disabilities and also needs to be implemented for gifted students. *“Psychologists and teachers agree that the best learning happens when a student’s level of understanding matches the challenge of new material.”* (Gifted Children in the Classroom. Accor Services, North America, 2004)

This seminar will address the following:

- What is the difference between real differentiation and what’s actually happening in many classrooms?
- How can differentiation cater for gifted students’ needs?
- What does effective differentiation look like?
- What are the basics of implementing differentiation in your classroom?
- How can a parent encourage effective differentiation for their gifted child?

If you are a teacher, this seminar will provide you with a better understanding of differentiation and some practical ways to implement it in your classroom. If you are a parent, you will learn how to identify real differentiation and pick up some hints for how to approach the school about the topic. A range of examples will be provided to demonstrate differentiation. You’ll also receive a list of practical ideas for conducting differentiated lessons.

No prior knowledge expected.

**Venue: Southern Community Church of Christ, Corner Chesterville Rd &
Pine St, Cheltenham (Mel ref 86 J1)**

Cost: \$5 members, \$10 non-members,

Bookings essential (payment on the night)

RSVP by email admin@giftedsupport.org

or phone Louise 9578 8068 (after 6pm)

PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS

GIFTED SUPPORT NETWORK

(Formerly Bayside Young Active Minds - BYAMS)

Active network in Melbourne's south eastern region offering the following services to families with gifted children:

- * "Mini Minds" - activities for preschoolers
- * "Primary Minds" - activities for primary school aged children and their parents
- * "Teens & Tweens" - activities for teenagers and their parents each term
- * Information evenings with expert speakers covering issues relating to the gifted
- * Daytime and evening social events for parents to share their experience of parenting the gifted child
- * Comprehensive members' library
- * Quarterly newsletter containing professional articles

For further information visit www.giftedsupport.org

or phone Carolyn (9576 5137)

P.O. Box 2808 Cheltenham, 3192

Email address is admin@giftedsupport.org

For the full program of Gifted Support Network activities see the excellent calendar of events at

<http://www.giftedsupport.org>

'THE BIG BANG COFFEE CLUB'

A group for parents of gifted children in the Western region of Melbourne

We meet for coffee and a chat at:

Brown's Bakery

28 Pratt Street

Moonee Ponds

On the first Monday of each month at 9.30am

(Public and School holidays excluded)

Anyone interested is welcome to attend and if anyone has queries they may contact

Tina McCarthy tina@tinamccarthydesign.com

or Sally-Ann Free

sallyann.free@live.vu.edu.au Ph: 0425 779 829 Note New email address for Sally Ann

We are a small group and look forward to welcoming you.

BIG BANG COFFEE CLUB

Mini/Primary Minds group

For details contact

Melissa Conley Tyler

m.conleytyler@gmail.com

mobile 0409 765 787

MAROONDAH GIFTED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOC.

Morning Coffee at MacDonald's, Maroondah Hwy. Croydon Vic. at 10.30 am on the first Wednesday of the month

Postal address:

c/- 13 Heathwood St

Ringwood East Vic 3135

Contact Jennifer Grant

Phone 9779 4218

ijgrant@optusnet.com.au

Louise Howe Phone 9801 2912

louise_h@tpg.com.au

CHIP GEELONG

CHIP Family Support Group Geelong

Contact

Meg Kinsley email Kingsleys@optusnet.com.au

Bass Coast/South Gippsland shire, Phillip Island, Wonthaggi area

Megan Leigh would like to connect with other parents of gifted children in the Bass Coast/South Gippsland shire. Phillip Island, Wonthaggi area who would be interested in getting together for a network

Contact Megan Leigh

PO Box 906

Cowes, 3922

Phone (03) 5672 3336

Mobile 0411 469 759

email indigo2crystal@yahoo.com.au

Casterton and district area

Catriona Hill would like to connect with other parents of gifted children in the Casterton and District area

Contact : Catriona Hill

Phone (03)55812529

Mobile 0419008734

Email: antrim@netspace.net.au

Web: <http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/tallpoppysyndrome/>

GIFTED RESOURCE AND INFORMATION GROUP - CASEY/CARDINIA

For families with gifted children in Casey/Cardinia

Meets at Maranatha Christian School Rix Rd, Officer.

Contact

Victoria Poulos

Phone 0420 286 307

Email victoriapoulos@gmail.com

Email victoriapoulos@gmail.com

VICTORIA / NEW SOUTH WALES

NSW ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED & TALENTED CHILDREN ALBURY/WODONGA SUPPORT GROUP

Meets bi-monthly in Wodonga, Victoria, and welcomes parents & teachers of gifted children

For information contact

Secretary, Cathy Baillie (02) 6021 5913

Phone: 02 60215913

Assistant Secretary, Jeannie Bowen (02) 6021 2073

website link <http://www.nswagtc.org.au/albury-wodonga>

NEW SOUTH WALES

NEW GROUP in the St George/Sutherland area

Just letting everyone know that a support group has started for gifted children 2-5yrs (or there about) and their parents/carers in the St George/Sutherland area.

We meet each Thursday of school term 10am -12pm.

We are finalising a hall, so are meeting at a park for the time being.

It is a relaxed friendly and supportive group where children get an opportunity to mix with like minds and the adults feel comfortable to discuss G&T issues :)

Bring drinks/snacks and a smile.

Louise

Mobile 0411 586 830

11th Asia Pacific Conference on Giftedness

EARLY BIRD ONLINE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

On behalf of the Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted and Talented (AAEGT), we look forward to welcoming you to Sydney, Australia for the 11th Asia Pacific Conference on Giftedness. The theme of our conference is “Thinking Smart: Effective Partnerships for Talent Development”, which signals our belief that we all need to work collaboratively to ensure that gifted students are provided with the best possible education.

It is an important time for gifted education internationally and we have secured dynamic gifted educators from across the globe to stimulate and challenge our thinking. It will be a great opportunity to hear new ideas and to renew connections with old friends and colleagues from the Asia-Pacific rim and beyond. Australian educators, too, are keen to share their practices in gifted education with our international colleagues.

The AAEGT is committed to raising the profile of gifted education through the promotion of professional knowledge and skills, policy development and advocacy, research and scholarship, and the dissemination of information. Hosting the Asia Pacific Conference in 2010 is part of that commitment. The Asia Pacific Federation is affiliated with the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children and holds its biennial conference in even years while the World Council holds its biennial conference in odd years. This provides members from the Asia Pacific rim an opportunity every year to gather together, to share ideas, and renew enthusiasm for meeting the needs of gifted children, their families, and their teachers.

We invite you to join us for an engaging and thought-provoking conference in 2010.

Registration for the Think Bank Program and Youth Summit is now open. You can click [here](#) to register for the conference or to find out about partnering the conference through valuable sponsorship opportunities.

Wilma Vialle, PhD
Chair , 11th Asia Pacific Conference on Giftedness
President, Australian Association for the Education of the Gifted & Talented

New TAOC Sets!

TAOC The Art of Literary Conversation and TAOC The Art of Travel Conversation. Both are aimed at painless education and great conversations and discussions and each pack includes comprehensive endnotes and guidebooks.

Kind regards
Louise Howland
TAOC - The Art Of Conversation
Tel 03 5447 7699
Fax 03 5447 7899
louise@taoc.com.au
www.taoc.com.au

DESTINATION IMAGINATION

A home educator is interested in getting a team together to enter this event where each team works together to solve a challenge. More information available at <http://www.idodi.org/>

If you may be interested, contact Jane jane5ok@yahoo.com.au to receive information on the possibility of getting together to plan a way forward
Website Destination ImagiNation <http://www.idodi.org/>

Earthwatch TeachLive Program

Earthwatch Institute is an independent, non-profit environmental organisation whose mission is to engage people worldwide in scientific research and education to promote the understanding and action necessary for a sustainable environment. The research Earthwatch supports contributes to the conservation and sustainability of some of the world's most important habitats and species.

To ensure younger generations have the opportunity to learn about these conservation and sustainability issues, Earthwatch Australia developed TeachLive - an experiential teaching and learning model designed to provide professional development opportunities to teachers whilst engaging students in real science. Teachers participate on an Earthwatch scientific research project and communicate their experiences to their students, schools and wider communities using information communication technologies.

In 2008, a partnership was formed between Earthwatch and the Victoria Electricity Eco-Gold Environmental Fund which seeks out individuals and groups with environmental interests, helping to nurture their work within the community and increase environmental awareness.

In 2009, Karen Johns from Kalinda Primary School, Victoria, was given the chance to join Earthwatch's **Wildlife of Brazil's Pantanal** research expedition through the support of the Eco-Gold Environmental Fund and the TeachLive Program.

Here she worked alongside Earthwatch scientists, bringing communities and leading scientists together to help conserve this UNESCO World Heritage Site and largest expanse of tropical wetlands in the world.

Karen reflected on her experience after her return from the field; "My experience in the Pantanal, a vast region that was unknown to me prior to this opportunity, was a unique and extremely enriching one."

A dedicated Eco-Gold TeachLive website was used by Karen to post photos, highlights, daily journal entries and lesson plans.

The website contains an interactive forum through which students can communicate in real time with their teacher in the field, asking questions about the research.

Karen was able to link live and direct to her school and classroom via webcam and Skype as well as satellite phone.

The response from the students was one of pure captivation and intrigue as they listened to stories about the large and small creatures, along with the diversity and richness of the Pantanal region.

"Both my students and I now have a far greater understanding of the processes of scientific research and the benefits that research brings to local and global communities."

"Not only did I get to learn about and embrace a unique part of the world, but my students did also, and that is a very powerful and enriching experience for me as a teacher."

For more information on Earthwatch please visit www.earthwatch.org/australia or for more information on the TeachLive Program please visit www.teachlive.org.au.

ClimateWatch www.climatewatch.org.au

Scientist for a Day www.earthwatch.org/australia/expeditions/1_day/

Family teams www.earthwatch.org/australia/expeditions/wkend_fam_exped/

Student Challenge www.earthwatch.org/australia/expeditions/stud_teen_teams/

FROM BILL ZIMMERMAN

MakeBeliefsComix.com Unveils New Features to Help ESL, Literacy Students Write, Read and Tell Stories Online

Some good news to share with you! MakeBeliefsComix.com has launched a new version of its educational comics web site with added features to enrich the experience of students as they write, read and tell comic strip stories online.

.We have increased the number of diverse fun comic characters to 20. Each character has four different emotions – happy, sad, angry, worried --that can be deployed in stories, for a total of 80 different faces and expressions. Users can select the ones they want and write words for blank talk and thought balloons to make characters talk and think.

.We have added a new function that displays 25 objects and environments that can go with the characters as stories are created. These objects include foods, hobbies, toys and sports equipment. In addition, there are trees, flowers, buildings, sun and moon. By adding these objects to the comic panels, students can create more complex, interesting stories and in so doing, practice new words. Seven languages, including English and Spanish, can be used on the site, and a teacher's guide is provided.

.We have linked MakeBeliefsComix.com to our other web site, <http://www.billztreasurechest.com>, which features many interactive activities and idea prompts from my books to help reluctant writers express themselves. The activities range from providing subject prompts to encourage story and personal writing, to keeping a diary, to recording family oral histories, to creating paper memory quilts that depict students' lives and achievements. Also featured are a writer's prompt blog and many printables and templates for creating comic stories.

Since we launched MakeBeliefsComix.com three years ago, more than 1.6 million people from 180 countries have visited. We were selected by Google and UNESCO as among the world's most innovative web sites that encourage reading and literacy and won Parents' Choice Foundation Recommended Award.

Our site is used by educators to teach language, reading and writing skills, and also for students in English as a Second Language programs to facilitate self-expression and storytelling, as well as computer literacy. Some educational therapists use the online comics with deaf and autistic people to help them understand concepts and communicate. Parents and children can create stories together, print them to create comic books or email them to friends. Our site is free.

Please try the new features with your students and children and send us your feedback. We want to be the best educational web site we can be for you. We hope you will share what we are doing with your colleagues.

Sincerely,
Bill Zimmerman
Creator, MakeBeliefsComix.com
wmz@aol.com

COG – Colours Of Grey Matters

Emma L. Donaldson from Colours Of Grey Matters will be practising at 'Kids in Kooyong', specialising in Special Education tutoring, group sessions and varied programs. Emma's expertise is in particular working with gifted individuals, individuals with an ASD and dual labelled individuals. Literacy and numeracy support are also incorporated into the range of services available. Emma has experience in Coordinating Gifted Programs and Case Managing in ASD. Emma is the Co-Director of PLIESE Pty Ltd and the Co-developer of PLIESE Learning Tool, which has been designed specifically for Special Education. Emma is thrilled to be joining the Kids in Kooyong clinic, providing services through Colours Of Grey Matters as a Special Education Consultation and PLIESE Pty Ltd guidance for all PLIESE families or interested parties. Currently, Emma is completing a PhD in Special Education/Psychology focusing on dual labelled students - gifted with Aspergers syndrome.

COG - COLOURS OF GREY MATTERS

Colours Of Grey Matters

Emma L. Donaldson

Education Consultancy

Glenferrie Road, Kooyong Vic. 3144

North Melbourne, Vic. 3051

Email emma.donaldson@cogmatters.com.au

Phone +61 (0) 438951716

PLIESE Learning Tool

Emma L. Donaldson and Nigel Vernon

Glenferrie Road, Kooyong Vic. 3144

and Bendigo, Vic 3551

Email

emma@pliese.com.au

nigel@pliese.com.au

admin@pliese.com.au

Website www.pliese.com.au

Phone

0413 408 076

0410 577 649

SOME INTERESTING WEBSITES

Catching up on lost sleep

http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2010-01-14-Sleep14_ST_N.htm

Wifitti

<http://wifitti.com/>

Interactive Learning

<http://www.interactive-learning.com.au/>

The Gates Notes

<http://www.thegatesnotes.com/Default.aspx>

AussieCon4

www.aussiecon4.org.au

Cybraryman – Sensual Awareness

<http://cybraryman.com/senses.html>

ADAVIC

<http://www.adavic.org.au/PG-social-support-support-groups.aspx>

What's your motivation?

<http://generallythinking.com/blog/whats-your-motivation/>

<http://generallythinking.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/sdt-cont.gif>

<http://generallythinking.com/blog/autonomy-makes-you-happy/>

Miraca Gross on Radio

<http://www.abc.net.au/classic/throsby/#listen>

Ed Tech Crew Podcasts

<http://www.edtechcrew.net/2010/02/02/ed-tech-crew-112-were-back/>

S.U.M.S. Statistics generator

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/sums/index.php?page=ready>

Java demos for probability and statistics

<http://www.math.csusb.edu/faculty/stanton/probstat/index.html>

Startrek Statistics tutorial Sampling theory

<http://stattrek.com/Lesson3/SamplingTheory.aspx>

Statistics and forecasting software

http://www.wessa.net/rwasp_rngnorm.wasp

Math by Design

<http://mathbydesign.thinkport.org/default.aspx?skipTo=home>

Windows MultiPoint Server2010

<http://www.labnol.org/software/one-computer-classroom/12572/>

Yale uncouples IQ and reading

<http://opa.yale.edu/news/article.aspx?id=7166>

Destination ImagiNation

<http://www.idodi.org/>

NAGC Webinars on Wednesdays

http://www.nagc.org/wow.aspx#WOW_registration_info

Count Me In – new book from Mark Collard of Inspire your Group
(Available from Gifted Resources)

<http://www.inspireyourgroup.com/>

TAOC – The Art of Conversation –two new titles available

<http://www.taoc.com.au/taoc.aspx>

WiseOnes updated website

<http://www.wiseones.com.au/>

DEECD updated website

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/default.htm>

DEECD Gifted Education

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/programs/gifted/>

My Delicious bookmarks

<http://delicious.com/jofreitag>

Story arts – storytelling activities

<http://www.storyarts.org/lessonplans/lessonideas/index.html#1001>

MySchool

<http://myschool.edu.au>

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Kind regards, Jo Freitag

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