

LIFE SKILLS FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Directory of Learning Resources Australian Educational Suppliers



Empower Children Education
www.empowerchildreneducation.com.au

Disclaimer:

The intent of this directory is to suggest learning resources available from educational suppliers in Australia for the themes, topics and activities related to life skills learning for children that can be implemented by teachers and educators to increase successful educational outcomes and practical real life skills in the early years. The author assumes no responsibility for the use of the learning resources by teachers and/or educators, and any immediate and future learning outcomes and other results that transpire from the use of the learning resources.

Compiled by:

Empower Children Education
PO Box 1229
Morley WA 6943
Australia

Telephone: 1800 882 678 (Australia)

Email: sales@empowerchildreducation.com.au

CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Learning Resources by Themes:	
Children Are People	4
Children Have Bodies	16
Children Use Their Senses	32
Children Have Feelings	40
Children Have Physical Needs	49
Children Have Families	82
Children Live In Homes	92
Children Have Friends	106
Children Live in a Community	111
Children Visit Places	128
Children Can Travel	142
Children Have Many Things in Their World	151
Integrated Themes	195

EXCERPTS

Piaget believed that children were not able to form a sharp distinction between fantasy and reality, and some research specifically on fantasy beliefs has borne this out. For instance, three year olds have trouble distinguishing between real and fantasy animals, when presented with drawings, and children are often confused by fantastical events that they find frightening.

Young children are still in the process of actively constructing the boundary between real and fantastical entities and face a considerable challenge, recognizing what implications the property information has for reality status. As children learn more about the properties that are necessary and typical of humans, the contrast between the properties of the supposedly real entities and those of the truly real will increase and children recognize that some of the entities are not real but imaginary.

Physical and social knowledge acquisition has an important role in the development of the fantasy/ reality distinction. Children discriminate first between the properties of real and fantastical entities in the two domains in which they are apt to have the most knowledge i.e. the physical and the social. The social domain seems especially important at all ages. The first sign of differentiation among the 3- year-olds is in the greater number of social properties they attributed to entities they considered real compared with those they considered fantastical.

Reference: Tanya Sharon and Jaqueline Woolley, *The Fantasy-Reality Distinction in Children* in the British Journal of Developmental Psychology (2004), 22, 293–310, The British Psychological Society, 2004

Reality is a crucial prerequisite for optimal development. An education based on reality prepares the child to perceive his environment in a precise and accurate manner. It is essential to stress the importance of reality as the basis of education. After the child has been able to perceive the reality, she/he has no problem seeing the difference between real and unreal things. After the child has seen a real teapot and has been able to work with it, for example, she/he will not believe in a talking teapot.

The child must build her/his interior life through real experiences before she/he can express anything; she/he must take constructive material spontaneously from the external world in order to create his mind. The child, who lacks knowledge of the external world, is at risk of being attracted by the fantastic, the supernatural, and the unreal. The task of education is to help the child overcome this state and enter into the field of reality, to help her/him become a person who understands.

Reality is what you perceive through your senses, what is recognized by the cerebral cortex. The visual sense can be fooled by images that present fantasy as if it were real. For the self-construction of the mind, the child has to be able to have real experiences with real objects, perceived through multiple senses.

Reference: Silvia C. Dubovoy, Ph.D., *Reality: The Most Powerful and Integral Key to the World*, 25th International Montessori Congress Papers - July 2005

INTRODUCTION

The Directory of Learning Resources has been especially compiled by Empower Children Education for use by teachers and educators in early childhood education and childcare contexts to assist the implementation of the *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers Education Program©* for children from 2-6 years old.

It is essential that before using this directory, teachers and educators read the following documents linked to the *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers Education Program©* namely:

- *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers: Curriculum Guide for Teachers©*
- *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers: Activity Guide for Educators©*

The *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers Education Program©* is based on the premise that life skills learning which focus on concepts and knowledge relating to *children as people* can consolidate, enhance and further develop the self, social and physical knowledge that children bring from home to the early childhood setting. It can make connections for children with what they know and is important to them, and new learning. It can make children's learning relevant and enjoyable. It can assist language, literacy and numeracy learning for children. It can be linked to early childhood curriculum and learning outcomes.

The program focuses on *children* and *people* concepts, knowledge and understandings that are the foundations for child intelligence and universal across families, communities and countries through a set off twelve (12) learning themes:

1. Children Are People
2. Children Have Bodies
3. Children Use Their Senses
4. Children Have Feelings
5. Children Have Physical Needs
6. Children Have Families
7. Children Live In Homes
8. Children Have Friends
9. Children Live in a Community
10. Children Visit Places
11. Children Can Travel
12. Children Have Many Things in Their World

The "Integrated Themes" section of this directory includes resources that incorporate a number of themes and it is suggested that teachers and educators decide which resources relate to particular themes.

The sequence of themes is based on long term observations of children and an assessment of the sequence indicated by children to be important to them. It does not preclude the inclusion of themes based on children's real life interests and other themes that occur during a pre-school and childcare program e.g. traditional celebrations.

The directory promotes the use of learning resources that:

- portray children as people in real life situations;
- provide varying dimensions of a concept e.g. real, three-dimensional, two-dimensional and abstract,
- provide multi-sensory experiences e.g. kinaesthetic, olfactory, visual, auditory and tactile; and
- provide multi-level experiences e.g. labelling, comparison, categories and seriation

It does **not promote or condone** learning resources that "humanise" animals and inanimate objects e.g. animals and inanimate objects representing and behaving like people. These are considered to be inappropriate and confusing for children during a period of learning from birth to 6 years when they are developing their own self-concept as a person and a differentiation between what is real and what is not real.

The learning resources in the directory include:

- Books – Story and Readers
- Posters
- Puzzles
- 2D and 3D models
- Physical Equipment
- Construction Sets
- Classification Games
- Collage Materials

They have been selected from the early childhood education range listed by the following eight (8) commercial educational suppliers in Australia who are acknowledged for the inclusion in the directory of learning resources supplied by them.

Educational Experience	www.edex.com.au
Dominie	www.dominie.com.au
Jiggle Jigsaws	www.jigglejigsaws.com
Judius	www.judius.com.au
Kesco Educational	www.kesco.com.au
Modern Teaching Aids	www.teaching.com.au
Oz Publishing	www.ozpublishing.com.au
Teacher Superstore	www.teachingsolutions.com.au

In addition to the provision of learning resources appropriate for the implementation of the *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers Education Program©*, a key purpose of the directory is to demonstrate for teachers and educators the availability of a comprehensive range of learning resources that focus on children as people and themes that are relevant to them and can assist the development of real life concepts, knowledge and skills for children in the early childhood years. These concepts, knowledge and skills are important to enable children's readiness for more formal learning in schools and provide the basis for early literacy and numeracy and other curriculum learning areas.

The directory provides basic information on individual learning resources in terms of an image of a resource, title, code number and supplier. It is suggested that teachers and educators seek detailed information, availability and prices for resources on suppliers' websites using a code number and assess the use of resources appropriate for their group of children in terms of their age, backgrounds and levels. The inclusion of learning resources in the directory is not an indication that they are recommended by the author.

Teachers and educators are encouraged to use the resources across themes. For example, some resources for *Children are People* can be used for *Children Have Friends* and *Children Have Families*. Resources for shape, colour, size and alphabet that are made of tactile materials e.g. foam, or focus on the use of the senses can be used for *Children Use Their Senses*. Resources that are models of food can be used for *Children Visit Places* on a topic of going to a park for a picnic or taking lunch when visiting a farm or a zoo.

It is acknowledged that learning resources appropriate for the implementation of the *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers Education Program©* are available from a number of booksellers, educational suppliers and retailers in Australia including those mentioned in the *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers: Curriculum Guide for Teachers©*.

These include:

Child Education Services	www.childeducation.com.au
Dymocks Booksellers	www.dymocks.com.au
Early Childhood Services	www.esa.edu.au
Junior Bees	www.juniorbees.com.au
Music Works Magic	www.musicworksmagic.com
PDF Educational Supplies	www.pdfeducationsupplies.com.au
Scholastic Teaching Resources	www.scholastic.com.au
The Learning Ladder DK Books	www.learningladder.com.au

Empower Children Education welcomes teachers' and educators' review of learning resources listed in the directory and their suggestions for other learning resources that can be used to implement the *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers Education Program©* for children from 2-6 years old.

A Children Are People

ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Everyone is Special and Unique Book	184192	Educational Experience
	Tom Tom Extra Book	361139	Educational Experience
	A True Person Book	361154	Educational Experience
	What I Wanna Be Book	387928	Educational Experience
	Me Book	337782	Educational Experience
	My Birthday Book	337790	Educational Experience
	Australian Indigenous People Poster	344663	Educational Experience
	Children's Activity Birthday Party Puzzle 24 pieces	272344	Educational Experience

A Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Children of the World Floor	340166	Educational Experience
	Tuzzles Children of the World 8 Puzzles	379735	Educational Experience
	Inclusion Puzzles Set of 6	423593	Educational Experience
	Corroboree Celebration Puzzle 12 pieces	390955	Educational Experience
	Dancing Kids Puzzle 12 pieces	379891	Educational Experience
	Aboriginal Artist Puzzle 12 pieces	379859	Educational Experience
	Sand Drawing Puzzle 12 pieces	379883	Educational Experience
	Gathering Lady Puzzle 12 pieces	379875	Educational Experience

A Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Wise Old Man Puzzle 12 pieces	379842	Educational Experience
	Indian Girl Puzzle 12 pieces	359067	Educational Experience
	Muslim Girl Puzzle 12 pieces	359034	Educational Experience
	Aboriginal Puzzles Set 8 Puzzles	379909	Educational Experience
	Children Counting Tray Puzzle 20 pieces	128504	Educational Experience
	Children of the World Wooden Set of 25	377572	Educational Experience
	African People Set - Set of 8	238402	Educational Experience
	Wood People	328336	Educational Experience

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	People With Disabilities Set 6 pieces	238436	Educational Experience
	South American People Set - Set of 8	238386	Educational Experience
	Multicultural Puppets Set of 10	355826	Educational Experience
	World Kids School Sewing	329797	Educational Experience
	Linking People Pack of 48	304493	Educational Experience
	Paper Doll Pad	017558	Educational Experience
	Multicultural Baby Dolls Set of 6	342048	Educational Experience
	African Baby Girl Doll 42cm with hair	421100	Educational Experience

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Asian Baby Girl Doll 42cm with hair	421074	Educational Experience
	Asian Baby Boy Doll 42cm with hair	421042	Educational Experience
	All Kinds of Kids: Preschool 8 Charts	NS-3048	Dominie
	All Kinds of Kids: Differing Abilities 8 Charts	NS-3047	Dominie
	Totline Learning Charts I put my things away.	WPH-4234	Dominie
	Totline Learning Charts I pick up my toys	WPH-4233	Dominie
	Totline Learning Charts I say please and thank you	WPH-4235	Dominie


Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Totline Learning Charts I share with others	WPH-4236	Dominie
	Totline Learning Charts I wipe up my spills.	WPH-41011	Dominie
	Totline Learning Charts I keep my hands to myself	WPH-41005	Dominie
	Learn and Grow: Character Development 15 pieces and Discovery Guide	T-8210	Dominie
	Connecting People	LER-7549	Dominie
	Connecting People Pattern Cards	LER-3158	Dominie
	Baby Says Peekaboo	XP2752	Judius

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Toddler Puzzle Set - 4 pieces	WTSET5	Judius
	Children's Play Puzzles – 6 pieces	WTSET8	Judius
	Inclusion Jigsaw Puzzle Set of 6	JJ490	Judius
	Spring Flowers Tray Puzzle – 16 pieces	WT182	Judius
	Colour Works Tray Puzzle – 16 pieces	WT184	Judius
	Number Party Tray – 20 pieces	PP034	Judius
	ABC Tray Puzzle – 26 pieces	JJ300	Judius

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Children Of The World Felt - 15 pieces	LF2203	Judius
	Ten Little Children Felt – 10 pieces	LF7007	Judius
	Octuplets – 8 Dolls:	DVK001	Judius
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caucasian Baby Boy • Caucasian Baby Girl • Hispanic Baby Boy • Hispanic Baby Girl • Aboriginal Baby Boy • Aboriginal Baby Girl • Asian Baby Boy • Asian Baby Girl 		
	African Boy (40cm)	MN053	Judius
	African Girl (40cm)	MN054	Judius
	Children of the World Set of 8 Puzzle- 6 pieces	BS1214	Kesco Educational
	Tuzzles Children of the World 8 Puzzles – 6 pieces	BS1030	Kesco Educational

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Children of the World Puzzle – 9 pieces	Sk81	Kesco Educational
	Tuzzles Children of the World Puzzle -20 pieces	BS2903	Kesco Educational
	Melissa & Doug – Children Around the World Floor Puzzle 48 pieces	MND2866	Kesco Educational
	Children of the World Puzzle Set	LS761	Kesco Educational
	Maori People Puzzles – Set of 3 Wooden Maori Puzzles – 24 pieces	BS01	Kesco Educational
	Grow Inset Puzzle – Grandfather – 30 pieces	ED7154	Kesco Educational
	Differing Abilities Set of 6 Puzzles – 9-10 pieces	LS972DA	Kesco Educational
	Melissa & Doug – Disability Awareness 4 Puzzles – 9 pieces	MND1735	Kesco Educational

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Children Counting Tray – 20 pieces	JJ320	Kesco Educational
	Whoever You Are	HAC8599	Modern Teaching Aids
	Too Little	LM02950LML	Modern Teaching Aids
	First Time Pre-School Pack 2	CPACKIT4	Modern Teaching Aids
	Children of the World Posters – Set of 20	LS936	Modern Teaching Aids
	Differing Abilities Poster Pack of 20	LS257	Modern Teaching Aids
	Good Manners Poster Pack of 20	LS756	Modern Teaching Aids
	Edu-Toys – Swivel Globe – 28cm	FD36899	Modern Teaching Aids

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Children of the World Puzzle Set of 8	BS1214	Modern Teaching Aids
	Children of the World Puzzle Set	LS761	Modern Teaching Aids
	Children of the World Puzzle	SK81	Modern Teaching Aids
	Melissa & Doug – Children Around the World Floor Puzzle 48 pieces	MND2866	Modern Teaching Aids
	Children in our Community Puzzle Bundle	LSKIT-3	Modern Teaching Aids
	Inclusion Jigsaws Set of 6	JJ490	Modern Teaching Aids
	Tuzzles Gender Equity Puzzle Set – Set of 4	BS160	Modern Teaching Aids
	Aboriginal People Puzzles – Set of 8	MJ1801	Modern Teaching Aids

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Tuzzles Traditional Aboriginal Life Puzzle Set of 4	BS437	Modern Teaching Aids
	Maori People Puzzles – Set of 3 Wooden Maori Puzzles	BS01	Modern Teaching Aids
	Differing Abilities Puzzles Set of 6	LS972DA	Modern Teaching Aids
	Toddler Puzzles Set of 6	RO3010	Modern Teaching Aids
	Australian & NZ Flag Puzzles Set of 4	BS1238	Modern Teaching Aids
	International Flag Matching Game	LB3159	Modern Teaching Aids
	Cultural Inclusion Kit	MTAIDKIT1	Modern Teaching Aids
	Differing Abilities Language Cards 43 x 56cm	NH9060	Modern Teaching Aids

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Children Around The World Block Play	LS552	Modern Teaching Aids
	Multicultural Block Play Super Set – 36 pieces	LS69K	Modern Teaching Aids
	Lego Duplo – World People Set – 16 pieces	LEG9222	Modern Teaching Aids
	Diverse Abilities Block Play Set	CUS0164	Modern Teaching Aids
	Inclusion Block Play Set – 9 pieces	SK495	Modern Teaching Aids
	Kid Counters – Jar of 100	LS941	Modern Teaching Aids
	Orchard Toys – Pick n Mix People Game	OC008	Modern Teaching Aids

Children Are People			
ITEM	TITLE	CODE	SUPPLIER
	Children Of The World – Felt 15 pieces	LV2203	Modern Teaching Aids
	Felt People Multicultural Pack of 30	FLT401	Modern Teaching Aids
	Multicultural Hand Puppet Kit – 12 pieces	KD12496K	Modern Teaching Aids
	Multicultural FingerPuppet 40 pieces	KD2435K	Modern Teaching Aids
	Children Counting Tray	JJ320	Modern Teaching Aids
	Where are you from BIG BOOK	EMB001	Oz Publishing
	Aboriginal People Poster Kit of 8 Posters	MJIPACK8	Oz Publishing
	Multicultural People Poster Kit of 6	MJIPACK16	Oz Publishing

LIFE SKILLS FOR
PRE-SCHOOLERS
EMPOWER CHILDREN
EDUCATION PROGRAM

The *Directory of Learning Resources* has been especially compiled for use by teachers and educators in early childhood education and childcare contexts to assist the implementation of the *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers Education Program*© for children from 2-6 years old.

The directory provides information on learning resources that can be used with:

- *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers: Curriculum Guide for Teachers*©
- *Life Skills for Pre-Schoolers: Activity Guide for Educator*©

The directory has been compiled by Isabelle Adams, an experienced early childhood teacher and professional who has successfully used a life skills curriculum and learning approach in the classroom and as an education focus for teachers and early educators.