

The Gowrie (QLD) Inc.

Established in 1940 by the Commonwealth Government to demonstrate Quality Early Childhood Practices

228 St Paul's Terrace, Fortitude Valley 4006

ABN 12 226 452 826

Ph: (07) 3252 2667 Fax: (07) 3252 2258



Dear Educators,

I am delighted to announce the release of Gowrie Australia's new publication ***Assessment in the Early Years: A resource from Gowrie Australia drawing on the Early Years Learning Framework***. This offers information about current good practice in documenting and assessing children's learning and will support educators to implement the national *Early Years Learning Framework* (EYLF).

This is a very practical resource, written by practitioners for practitioners. Staff from Gowrie services across Australia worked together to review ways of approaching assessment in early childhood education and care (ECEC). The resource links to the EYLF, complements the Educators' Guide and supports educators to develop, review and strengthen their own approaches to assessment.

The resource offers examples of assessment and supporting documentation from educators across a range of early childhood settings including child centres, preschools, kindergartens and family day care. These examples show how assessment processes provide:

- a way for educators and families to share their perspectives and deepen their connections
- information to help educators to reflect on their programs and interactions
- guidance for planning for learning
- information that can promote continuity of learning and support successful transition to school.

Documenting children's learning and program evaluation has long been part of quality practice in ECEC. However, the term 'assessment' is more often linked to the school sector and has prompted some debate in early childhood settings. Gowrie Australia hopes that this resource will support educators to undertake meaningful and ethical assessment of teaching and learning. We believe that the starting point for this is recognising each child as a rich and competent learner with infinite possibilities. We view documentation and assessment as a collaborative endeavor, involving children, families and educators, to build a meaningful picture of learning.

The resource can be ordered in hard copy book format or electronically as a PDF document. Enclosed is an order form to purchase the resource.

I commend this new resource to you.

Yours sincerely

Dr Susan Irvine
CEO
The Gowrie (Qld) Inc.