

# Early Years Program



We love to travel. We'll come to you for training delivery.



**Learning  
Connections**  
Helping children achieve

"It (the Early years Program) has changed the way I think."

*Shay Gilliland, Kookaburra Creek Kindergarten*

## Movement is Serious Fun!

The **Early Years Program** uses the power of movement to improve children's ability to concentrate and learn.

The Learning Connections' **Early Years Program** is an evidence-based neurodevelopmental movement program that enhances children's ability to focus, builds confidence and social skills, and boosts their ability to learn.

Maximising children's opportunities for learning and development is key to effective Kindergarten programs and Prep curriculum. The impact of the Early Years Program is foundational and holistic – it enhances children's capacity for learning and development through a series of integrated and reciprocal effects – beginning with enhanced motor skills and sensory awareness, leading to enhanced cognitive capacity and self-regulation and, ultimately, enhanced school readiness and ability to learn.

The program consists of a set of movement exercises for the whole group, delivered by teachers and educators, and taking 15 to 20 minutes each day to complete.

### What others say

"Our educators embraced the training. They felt it was one of the best professional development opportunities they had been to in years. We saw results in a short amount of time. I will be recommending the Program to whoever will listen."

*Anna Woodhouse, Kidz at the Beach*

### What the Program looks like

We use a two-stage approach to train teachers and educators in the delivery of the Program and establish it in schools and kindergartens.

We are flexible with this delivery and tailor the Program in response to your needs, adjusting the activities where required to integrate with curriculums and routines.

#### a typical program delivery includes:

##### Stage 1

- A two-day educator training workshop;
- A parent and community engagement workshop

##### Stage 2: Follow-up (starting 4 to 6 weeks after Stage 1)

*Follow-up is critical to reinforce and strengthen the skills for implementing the Program effectively. It includes:*

- Individual classroom reviews to mentor and support individual educators to embed the Program, troubleshoot, extend activities, and to refresh knowledge;
- a one-hour parent engagement follow-up, providing parents information about the Program and explaining tips for supporting children at home.

## Supporting K-2 initiatives

### *Two years are better than one!*

The transition from Kindergarten to Prep is a major change for young children. Prep is a whole new world. But the unfamiliar becomes familiar when a child sees the Early Years Program continues!

We love working with Kindergartens and Primary Schools, collaborating to establish the Early Years Program across both the Kindergarten and the Prep years, as part of a K-2 continuity and alignment strategy.

The opportunity for children to continue with the Early Years Program for a second year - from Kindergarten to Prep, in addition to consolidating the cognitive and social emotional benefits of the program and preparing them for learning, provides significant additional benefits:

- *continuity* - a familiar routine for children (and parents!) entering the new world of Prep
- *a tangible connection* between the Kindergarten learning program and the Prep curriculum.

And for the Kindergarten and Prep teachers working together, the shared delivery of the Early Years Program strengthens collaboration and supports continuity and alignment.

K-2 collaborations also provide the opportunity for schools and kindergartens to pool their resources to introduce the Program.



### Why it's an ideal Kindy Uplift Investment

- it engages the whole group, settling them and preparing them for learning;
- it supports all 6 priority areas of the Kindy Uplift Program;
- It is play-based and trauma-informed, and provides strategies for calming, self-regulation and emotional expression;
- it builds educator capability and is simple to implement – taking just 20 mins each day, which can be spread across the day (and is great for transitions);
- it requires no equipment;
- its outcomes are measurable, evidence-based and value for money;
- it can be adapted to meet the needs and capabilities of children at different ages;
- parents and the community are engaged as partners in the program;
- regional and remote centres can access. We come to you!

## Supports all 6 priority areas



social and emotional learning



physicality



culturally safe and inclusive



executive functions



oral language and literacy



mathematics and numeracy

### Work with us!

Every early childhood service is unique. That's why we partner with leadership teams to design workshops that match your needs, curriculum goals, and community context.

Let's start the conversation about making movement a foundation for learning in your service.



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[learningconnections.com.au](https://learningconnections.com.au)

Learning Connections Centre is a division of Children's Connections Ltd  
ACN 010 463 760  
Registered Charity No. CH 761 Australia

To discuss how we can tailor the Early Years Program to fit your existing programming and routines

**Contact: Dianne Boyd**

**0414 264 758**

**[dianne@learningconnections.com.au](mailto:dianne@learningconnections.com.au)**