



## **WELCOME TO OUR CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER** (Dec 2010)

In this issue:

- **New Quality Framework**
- **New training workshop topics**
- **Music Activity - 'Hello hands'**
- **Teaching in China and Indonesia**
- **New look for our CDs & Books**



*Gary and Carol would like to wish you a merry Christmas and a joyous, relaxing New Year break.*  
Thanks to all who have shared our music, invited us to meet children and families at your centres and participated in teacher training with us this year. We continue to be inspired by the dedicated people we meet in early childhood services.  
We hope to meet you again in 2011.

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### **NEW QUALITY FRAMEWORK**

We have been part of early childhood education for many years and it is exciting to see the implementation of the Early Years Learning Framework and soon the National Quality Framework. It is, no doubt, a challenging time for staff but if implemented well, the changes will greatly support consistent, quality education and care for young children providing the best start in life for all Australian children.

As part of this change, we see more than ever the enormous role that movement and music can have in high quality, play centered education and wellbeing for babies and young children. Music involves both social/emotional and cognitive learning areas, so we hope it will retain a priority place in the new quality provisions.

So with this in mind, we are trying to support these changes in our music, movement and wellbeing workshops. New workshops are listed below.

## NEW WORKSHOP TOPICS for 2011

(Workshops to support the Early Years Learning Framework)

### OUT OF THE BOX

Thinking Outside the Square

Exploring musical creativity / Supporting children's optimal learning

### RELAXATION for BABIES, TODDLERS & PRESCHOOLERS

Simple massage, music and relaxation activities for wellbeing and optimal learning.

### HAPPY BEATS

Planning for Music Time.

Rhymes, songs, fingerplays and dances to support musical learning

### SINGASONGALONG

Singing, Young Children and You.

Ideas to gain voice confidence so you can help children explore the joy of singing.

For more of our popular workshops click on the link:

<http://www.adventuresinmusic.com.au/for-teachers-parents/workshop-topics/>

Like to host an inservice workshop at your centre? Looking for new music and movement activities to use with your children or relaxing activities to finish a busy day?

Ring Carol or Gary to discuss leading a session for staff at your centre in 2010.

Topics cover many aspects of music, movement, yoga, relaxation and wellbeing for children.

Sydney area:

We suggest a session charge of \$400 (+GST)

Outside the Sydney area:

We suggest a session charge of \$500 (+GST)  
plus negotiable country travel costs.

If you only have a small number of staff wanting to attend

but are interested in a workshop, please contact us.

We may be able to help by linking you in with a workshop in your local area.

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## MUSIC ACTIVITY

**Here's an easy song to greet the children in the new year.**

### Hello Hands How Are You

Tune ('Skip to My Lou' or 'Flies in the buttermilk shoo shoo shoo'.)

*Hello hands how are you ( 3 times)      How are you today!*

Keep the beat with a clapping hands, then moving hands up and down, rolling them over and back etc.

- 1 After *today* add a clap up high or a hey with the voice.  
Then change to moving different parts of the body e.g. *hello head, shoulders, feet body etc.*
- 2 Let the children suggest a body part to move and how to move it, slowly or quickly? etc.
- 3 Vary the type of movement as you move different parts of the body.  
Add locomotor movement e.g. on hello feet the children could walk and later make a train stamping on how are you today.
- 4 Find words in other languages for body parts or for hello.
- 5 Add instruments e.g. play on the clap after today  
Have fun the possibilities are endless!

## TEACHING IN CHINA AND INDONESIA



Carol had the privilege of leading workshops with teachers in Shekou International School in China and in Jakarta, for the Indonesian Ministry of Education this year. In Indonesia, early childhood education is now receiving priority and I had 3 days of fun with 40 enthusiastic educators from many different provinces. They were keen to experience new music ideas, with a plan to teach others how to incorporate music into their curriculum. It was a challenging, but exciting opportunity for me, with much to learn from participants about their cultural and language diversity. Their warmth, and spontaneity was infectious and wonderful.

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### **NEW LOOK for our CDs & BOOKS**

We are implementing a new branding of our resources with new cover images across all our CDs, DVDs & Books. You will now find new colorful drawings with attractive cardboard CD & DVD covers that are environmentally friendly & don't scratch or break but with all our popular songs and dances still included.

Visit our updated shop page to check out our the new covers:

[http://crees.server101.com/commerce/search/index.php3?merchant\\_id=2479&keywords=&search\\_type=ANY&custom\\_store\\_category=1&by\\_category=+GO!+](http://crees.server101.com/commerce/search/index.php3?merchant_id=2479&keywords=&search_type=ANY&custom_store_category=1&by_category=+GO!+)

Until next time  
Happy holiday,  
Gary & Carol

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