

<b>Workshop Title</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Duration</b>
<b>Kindy Inclusion Service– Introduction</b>	<p>Speld Qld a provider for the Kindy Inclusion Service. This program aims to enhance the participation, inclusion and learning and development outcomes of Kindergarten children with additional needs, within their educational setting.</p> <p>Speld Qld’s support within this program will be focused on enhancing early childhood educators’ understanding of learning disabilities and increasing their capacity to support children through universal and targeted evidence-based practices.</p> <p>This introductory workshop will give participants an overview of Speld Qld’s Kindy support structures and will assist educators to plan which workshops and services would be beneficial for their context.</p>	30 minutes
<b>Understanding Learning Disabilities</b>	<p>In Australia, up to 1 in 10 people have a learning disability. The most common ones are a Specific Learning Disorder: Reading, a Specific Learning Disorder: Writing and a Specific Learning Disorder: Maths. Development Language Disorder (DLD) can also impact the learning growth of individuals. 1 in 14 learners have DLD.</p> <p>Many of these disabilities will not be formally diagnosed until students are in primary school, though signs and symptoms can be present in the early childhood years. Early intervention is crucial.</p> <p>This workshop will enhance participants’ understanding of learning disabilities and will explore evidence-based practices in the kindergarten year that are protective and inclusive for learners.</p>	60 minutes
<b>Developing Phonological Awareness</b>	<p>Phonological awareness, particularly phonemic awareness, is critical to the development of effective early literacy skills. It is a strong predictor of later literacy success.</p> <p>Children with learning disabilities or language difficulties can find phonological skills difficult and can find identifying and manipulating speech sounds at the phoneme level very challenging.</p> <p>This workshop will develop participants’ understanding of the sequence of phonological skills and will identify ways Kindy educators can integrate phonological skill development into their daily programs within their service.</p>	60 minutes
<b>Oral Language Development</b>	<p>Oral Language is the system through which we express our knowledge, thoughts, ideas and feelings. Oral language is made up of: phonological skills, syntax, pragmatics, morphology and semantics (vocabulary).</p> <p>Oral language competency is widely regarded as necessary for later academic and literacy success. Children with learning disabilities or language difficulties can experience difficulties in oral language skills (across domains), and therefore later literacy challenges.</p> <p>This workshop will develop participants’ understanding of oral language domains, oral language milestones, and key universal level supports to enhance oral language of all Kindergarten students within their daily program.</p>	60 minutes

<p><b>Developmental Language Disorder</b></p>	<p>Developmental Language Disorder is known as a ‘hidden disability’ impacting around 1 in every 14 children. DLD is a diagnostic term that refers to individuals who have difficulty using and/or understanding language. This workshop supports educators in understanding the diagnostic criteria, presentation and implications for kindergarten teachers.</p> <p>Participants will gain an understanding of what DLD looks like specifically in younger children, and universal-level intervention that can be implemented in the kindergarten setting, to serve as a protective measure for children that may be later diagnosed with DLD.</p>	<p>60 minutes</p>
<p><b>The Alphabetic Principle</b></p>	<p>The alphabetic principle – understanding that letter symbols represent speech sounds – is foundational in emergent literacy education. Current research on emergent and pre-literacy skills points educators in the direction of teaching speech sounds and beginning letter/sound connections within daily Kindy contexts. These concepts and skills in phonological awareness, phonemic awareness and beginning letter/sound connections form the stepping stones to later literacy success.</p> <p>This workshop aims to step through key concepts in understanding and teaching the alphabetic principle.</p>	<p>60 minutes</p>
<p><b>Developing Vocabulary</b></p>	<p>Developing vocabulary is a critical area of pre-literacy experiences. Expanding a child’s knowledge of words provides unlimited access to new information and helps children to think and learn about the world. The size of a child’s vocabulary in kindergarten can impact early literacy skills as they transition to school. Children with Developmental Language Disorder can find expanding their vocabulary difficult and require intentional teaching to support this process.</p> <p>This workshop will enhance educators’ understanding of the role of vocabulary and will give practical strategies for including vocabulary experiences in daily Kindy contexts.</p>	<p>60 minutes</p>
<p><b>Using literature to support language growth</b></p>	<p>Using picture books to help children explore language is an excellent way of developing critical pre-literacy skills. Foundational aspects such as concepts of print, phonological awareness, phonemic awareness and vocabulary can be intentionally taught as Kindy teachers share stories and information texts with their learners. For learners with a potential learning disability or language disorder, picture books can offer a vital part of their support structures.</p> <p>This workshop will give educators a range of practical ideas for using literature and will explore a range of high-quality picture books and associated word play resources available from Speld Qld’s Kindy library.</p>	<p>60 minutes</p>