



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children

WRITING FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD AUSTRALIA

ECA Conference 2016

Jackie Brien, Judy Radich, Lennie Barblett & Ann Farrell

OUR VISION: EVERY YOUNG CHILD IS THRIVING AND LEARNING



Publications Committee

- **Dr Fay Hadley (Chairperson)**

Lecturer, Institute of Early Childhood, Macquarie University

- **Judy Radich**

Early childhood educator, Cooloon Children's Centre. Co-Editor of Every Child magazine

- **Jackie Brien**

Manager, Inclusion Access and Participation, Department of Education and Training. Co-Editor of Every Child magazine

- **Carmel Richardson**

Division of Communication and Education, University of Canberra. Early childhood educator and researcher.

- **Dr Lennie Barblett**

Senior Lecturer, Edith Cowan University. (Editor, *Australasian Journal of Early Childhood*)

- **Professor Ann Farrell**

Head of School, School of Early Childhood, Faculty of Education, Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

- **Julie Rutups**

Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT). ECA Board Member.

- **Sam Page**

Chief Executive Officer, Early Childhood Australia

- **Christopher Jones**

ECA Studio and Publications Manager. Graphic Designer.



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Role of the Publications Committee

The Early Childhood Australia Publications Committee:

- ensures that the Early Childhood Australia publications program meets its advocacy mandate: *to publish resources that support those who are responsible for the growth and development of young children*
- ensures that books published by Early Childhood Australia are relevant and of the highest quality
- oversees the Quality Assurance guarantee that underwrites Early Childhood Australia's publications program, including:
 - the peer review process applied to Early Childhood Australia publications and other resources
 - the review and approval of publications that are on-sold by Early Childhood Australia.



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ECA Publications and Studio

- Located in ECA's Head Office in Canberra
- ECA Publications and Studio team manage, edit, design and oversee the production the publications for ECA
- Christopher Jones—Publications and Studio Manager
- Kara Audas—Production Manager
- Tara Corcoran and Jessica Deotto—Publishing Editors
- Clair McDonald and Caitlin Johns—Graphic Designers



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ECA Publications Roles

- Publications Committee—overview of quality assurance, network authors, reviewers, marketing advice etc.
- Publications Editors—ensure quality and content for specific publications
- Publishing Section (ECA Office)—manage publications process, marketing of ECA and external titles
- Reviewers—quality assurance and relevance



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Early Childhood Australia Publications

- *Australasian Journal of Early Childhood (AJEC)*
- *Every Child* magazine
- *Research in Practice Series*
- *Everyday Learning Series*
- *Voice* newsletter
- *ECA WebWatch* e-newsletter
- Special titles (when required)



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Submissions—an overview

- Authors are given an ECA agreement form stating that they have made a commitment to ECA to take on their particular role. The form outlines expectations to meet (e.g. deadlines, ECA style etc.) and states that authors must notify ECA if they are unable to fulfill this agreement.
- Any photographs provided by authors must be high-quality (300dpi) for printing purposes and must not be pasted into other file formats, e.g. Word docs etc.
- Scripts submitted undergo a review process before publication is agreed.



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Australasian Journal of Early Childhood (AJEC)



Australasian Journal of Early Childhood

- For the latest early childhood research, debate, innovation, and developments ...
- Australasia's foremost scholarly journal
- The world's longest-running major journal within the early childhood field

Purpose of AJEC:

- A leading Australian early childhood scholarly journal
- To encourage the critical exchange of ideas in the field
- To support the professionalisation of early childhood across Australasia



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Australasian Journal of Early Childhood

Audience:

- Practitioners, academics and students in the early childhood field or related fields from across Australia and the world

Distribution methods:

- Hardcopy
- Online



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Australasian Journal of Early Childhood

Three article categories:

- Primary research (3000-6000 words)
- Research notes (1000-3000 words)
- Commentaries (3000-6000 words)

Style:

- Writing style needs to take into account the diverse readership with different levels of knowledge and experience
- See AJEC Author Guidelines for further specifics of style



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Australasian Journal of Early Childhood

Review process:

- An initial review is undertaken to ensure the article is suitable for AJEC
- All submitted articles undergo an external blind peer-review process by at least two separate reviewers
- Authors may have to revise their articles before they can be accepted for publication



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Every Child magazine



Every Child

Every Child magazine puts the spotlight on the early years of childhood.



Published quarterly and beautifully designed in full-colour, *Every Child* magazine contains informative articles on issues such as health, education and social trends, as well as book reviews, profiles and guest statements from well-known identities. Articles focus on aspects of early childhood from a grassroots level to political and national developments.

Aimed at anyone involved in the care and education of young children, *Every Child* is topical, diverse, and always entertaining.



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Every Child

- A premier early childhood magazine accessed by more than 40,000 practitioners
- Articles present useful information about diverse topics—health, education, social trends etc.
- Aims to encourage innovation, promote good practice and stimulate debate



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Every Child

Word lengths:

- Feature length articles (1100 words)
- Regular articles (550 words)
- Book reviews (300 words)



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Every Child

Also included:

- book reviews
- app reviews
- profiles
- creative ideas
- guest statements from well-known identities



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Every Child guidelines for authors

- Friendly but professional style
- Easily readable and jargon free
- Quotes and examples from real people
- Culturally sensitive
- No long academic references
- Accessible to all those working with young children or interested in issues related to the field



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Research in Practice Series



Research in Practice series (RIPS)

For practical, effective approaches from early childhood experts and practitioners ...

The Research in Practice Series provides practical, easy-to-read resources for those involved in the early childhood field.

The books are designed to assist with those challenging issues which arise in the care and education of young children, by offering effective, new approaches.



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Research in Practice series (RIPS)

Guidelines for authors—detail to follow review process:

- Content and style suitability and match to purpose
- Coherence, and structure
- Recommendations

Role of the Series editor:

- Response to manuscript and reviews
- Reconciliation of diverging views
- Advice to improve quality of communication



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RIPS Guidelines for authors

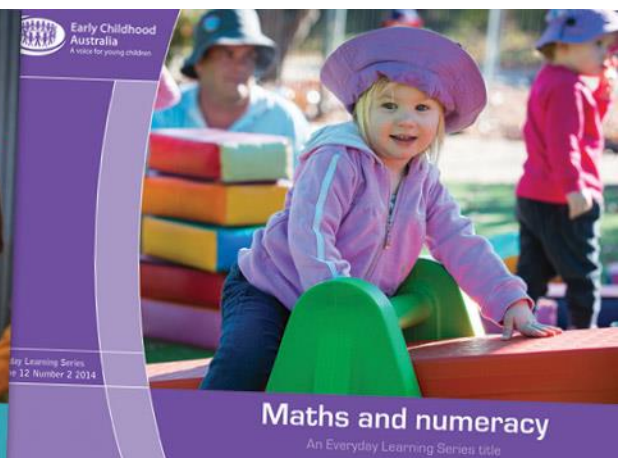
- Target audience
- Length of manuscripts
- Style, readability
- References
- Photographs/illustrations
- Author licence/copyright



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Everyday Learning Series



Everyday Learning Series (EDL)

For simple, creative ideas to enhance children's interactions with the world around them ...

The *Everyday Learning Series* focuses attention on the everyday ways in which young children—babies, toddlers, preschoolers—can be supported in their growth and development.

Offers simple, creative ideas on how to enhance children's interactions with the world around them.



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Everyday Learning Series (EDL)

- Parents and grandparents
- Early childhood students and family day care providers
- Each book covers a particular topic, e.g. Everyday learning about grief and loss; ...reading and writing; ...being green.
- How everyday experiences can be transformed into learning opportunities



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Key messages about writing for all ECA Publications

- Have “a heart” for what you are writing about
- Be consistent with ECA’s Code of Ethics, purpose, and Author Guidelines
- Consider audience, content, writing style, length
- Process of writing – consider use of “critical friends”
- Try not to be too “precious’ about your writing – the process may involve many revisions!
- And...just get started!



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THANK YOU



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