



## Making a difference:

### PDT Building citizenship through ECD

We are pleased to report that we have concluded the evaluation of the Persona Doll Training, Building citizenship through ECD programme and would like to share some of the key findings and recommendations.

The Citizenship project, funded by the DG Murray Trust, aimed at deepening the psychosocial component of The ECD package, creating a more integrated approach to ECD services. Citizenship training includes encouraging empathy, communication and respectful relationships as well as unlearning prejudice and discriminatory attitudes. It uses the Persona Doll approach (PDA) as a methodology. Few ECD projects explicitly focus on the psychosocial support needed to foster outcomes of social stability and citizenship.

The Persona Doll approach (PDA) encourages empathy, communication and respectful relationships as well as unlearning prejudice and discriminatory attitudes. [Read more](#)



### Also featured in this newsletter

[Working with learning support teachers](#)



47 participants from rural areas around Cape Town attended a Persona Doll Workshop in March at the CTLI in Kuilsriver – in two groups each with a PDT trainer. The group was fairly diverse and included learning support teachers, class teachers, learning support staff and teachers from high schools, psychologists and counsellors, principals and deputies. [Read more](#)



### Valcare toy library

My name is Ronell and I have had the great privilege to be a Grade R teacher for quite a while at Paarl Girls' High School in Paarl. I had everything my heart could desire to teach these precious little girls to the best of my ability –a beautiful classroom, enough resources, wonderful colleagues, good training and even parents who were involved in their children's school activities. [Read more](#)



### E Learning

Our pilot e learning course is underway- we are developing an ECD inclusion and diversity course including the persona doll approach. This is part of a blended approach – some contact training plus using the Internet resources to deepen understanding. It will bring video footage and activities to personalize your learning, and make the course real and exciting. Please email [info@pdt.org.za](mailto:info@pdt.org.za) if you are interested in doing such a course.



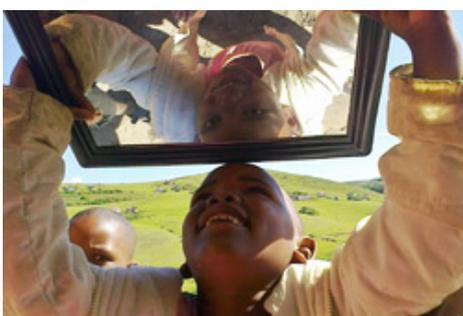
### Smart Start dolls

We are excited to be supplying play dolls, diverse, cuddly washable in diverse skin tones and genders to the SmartStart. SmartStart practitioners will surround children with care and attention. When young children feel safe and loved, it helps their brains to grow in the way they should. And when children are made to feel that their needs and ideas matter, their self-belief soars. [Read more](#)



### Mossel Bay training report

What a superb group of teachers, including 3 young interns from DSD. There were some familiar faces and also a lot of new people and the group just gelled from the word go, which was wonderful. So often when training in the Southern Cape the Afrikaans/isiXhosa debate comes into play and this time round, it didn't. I did approach the issues in a slightly unconventional way, which fortunately seemed to have paid off. [Read more](#)



### News from Bulungula incubator

We are delighted to report that Bulelwa Ganca and Funeka Jija will be co facilitating their second Persona Doll training on the 17 May. They are hoping to have 12 participants, 9 of whom are new community health field workers and 3 ECD teachers. [Read more](#)

## Contact us :

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