

HELPING OUT

Across Australia there are a lot of people helping out with school and education. Read this page each month to see who's doing what!

A Sporting Chance

A new program has been introduced to help our kids get more out of school.

Our kids love their sport, and to recognise this, a new program has been launched to combine sport and school to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students get a better start in life.

The Australian Government has launched the Sporting Chance Program, designed to build on Indigenous young people's interest in sport as a means of engaging primary and secondary school students in their schooling and improving their educational outcomes.

The program includes the funding of special school-based sports academies. The program will support the operation of 20 school-based sports academies across Australia, with 12 academies expected to begin operation in 2007.

The Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, says that the new school-based sports academies will aim to engage, motivate and lead Indigenous students into lifelong learning.

"Working within schools, the academies will provide male and female students with a wide range of courses through a variety of sports," she says. "Studies will focus on healthy lifestyles, leadership, career planning and sports including football, netball and basketball.

"The emphasis is on using sport to motivate students to achieve at school, thus opening the door to future opportunity."

About 1600 Indigenous secondary school students will participate in 2007 and 2008, with this number expected to increase in the future.

For more information about the Sporting Chance Program call 02 6240 5769 or email sportingchance@dest.gov.au



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PREPARATION BEFORE READING

This report tells us that the Sporting Chance Program is designed to make school more interesting by combining school work and sport.

There will be 20 school-based sports academies set up across Australia. Studies will focus on healthy lifestyles, leadership, career planning and sports including football, netball and basketball.

About 1600 Indigenous secondary students will participate in 2007 and 2008.

Read *A Sporting Chance* on page 30

ACTIVITY 1: SCANNING FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION

1. The new Sporting Chance Program was launched by the Australian Government.

TRUE

FALSE

2. What is the main reason for setting up the sports academies?

3. Which three sports will be included in the program?

4. Will there be other sports included as well? YES NO

5. Where can you find out more information about the Sporting Chance Program?



ACTIVITY 2: UNDERSTANDING WORDS IN CONTEXT

Write your own meaning for the words from the article in the boxes below.

(Read the words from the article as well as the sentences around them).

Words from the article	My words that mean the same thing
A new program has been launched.	
The emphasis is on using sport to motivate students to achieve at school.	

ACTIVITY 3:

- In paragraph one, "our kids love their sport" is an example of
 - formal language
 - colloquial language

- Circle the verb in this sentence:

"A new program has been introduced."

- The program includes the funding of special school-based sports academies.

Which tense is this sentence written in?

- past tense
- present tense
- future tense

- Some capital letters and punctuation have been left out of the sentences below. Write in the missing capital letters and punctuate correctly:

The emphasis is on using sport to motivate students to achieve at school thus opening the door to future opportunity. about 1600 students will participate in 2007 and 2008. it's a great new program said the minister for education science and training

**ACTIVITY 4: NEWSPAPER REPORT**

News reports in newspapers give readers information about events that have recently happened.

Guidelines:

Newspaper reports usually have:

- a headline to grab the reader's attention, for example:
New sports academy for Broome
- an opening or lead paragraph which gives a summary of the who, what, when and where of the event
- additional information about the answers to these questions, including comments from people who were involved, for example "It's a great opportunity for me," one student stated.
- information about the why and how of the event
- concise, factual language.

Write a news report about a new sports academy opening at your school.

- Use the guidelines to help you organise your newspaper report.
- Write in full sentences and pay attention to spelling and punctuation.