

Review: EdNA Online (Education Network Australia)

Margaret Kiley

For many years I have been a user of EdNA Online <http://www.edna.edu.au/edna/pages1.html>

EdNA Online is a joint initiative of the State and Territory governments, and the Australian Government, through their education departments and is managed out of Adelaide, South Australia. The web site houses arguably the largest collections of information on all levels of education within Australia. For example, on the home page of EdNA one can select the following links:

- Adult and Community Education
- Educational Organisations
- General References
- Higher Education
- International Education
- School Education
- Vocational Education and Training
- (Find) Education Providers

There are excellent resources for users who want to design and manage their own content but for this review I will focus more on the resources for 'classroom' teachers (whether the classroom be a university lecture theatre or laboratory, a pre-school or a Year 12 Art room).

On the entry page for Early Childhood at EdNA Online I can look for information on news, topics, events, projects, research, and reports and I can access a wealth of teaching and learning resources, classified under the following:

- Activities, Craft, Play
- Child Safety
- Literacy
- Music and Songs
- Numeracy
- Science
- Early Childhood Learning Quests
- General

The resources in EdNA Online have been reviewed for quality (and it seems to me one of the criteria is clearly enjoyment—try the music and songs resources, <http://www.edna.edu.au/edna/browse/0,schooled,resources,earlychild,14201> I had a wonderful time playing!)

The Higher Education section of the site provides information under the following categories

- Australian Higher Education Sector
- Research and Statistics
- Academic Divisions
- Staff Information

- Courses and Program
- International Students
- Student Information
- Resources Collections
- Resources by Discipline
- Educational Initiatives and Projects
- Government Initiatives, Projects and Reports

There is so much in this part of the site I hardly know where to start. The section on research and statistics is a researcher's gold mine!

The Resources Collections alone provides links to Clearinghouses and Gateways; Libraries and Documentation Centres; a Reference Desk; Internet Search Engines; Electronic Publications and Journals; Art Galleries and Museums, and Conference Proceedings.

I recommend this site to educators and suggest users request the regular e-newsletter that is send via email. Perhaps WEF members might like to see if there are topics to which we can contribute, particularly in light of the conference in November this year.