Together We Grow
2014 ELAA & Gowrie Victoria Conference

Prof Iram Siraj

Disadvantaged children succeeding 'against the odds'

Involved in the establishment of Early Start, University of Wollongong

A child’s vocabulary at 3 is a predictor of reading at age 10.

EPPSE project – Bronfenbrenner, proximal factors

Victoria – Linking Learning Projects

Factors for vulnerable/at risk children. Risk and protection rather than vulnerable and resilient.

Teacher quality, good home learning environment factors on disadvantaged children achieving higher than expected

Succeeded against odds (example of one child) – helped by parents, good home learning environment, read, sing, play, talk, cook. Parents valued education, aspirations, high expectations – behaviour and academic.

EYLF – Prof Srij’s feedback on draft was that it was feminised and lacking in maths, science, technology.

School readiness – make friends, ask questions if they don’t understand, sociable, School readiness is too often equated to literacy, academic, too narrow