

ASERA 52

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ScienceSing: Inspiring upper primary students to engage with science through song

*Abstract:*

Primary school teachers play a pivotal role in developing childrens' engagement with, and interest in, science. However, evidence suggests that many primary teachers are uncomfortable teaching science and need support. Songs can be effective in engaging students with science and a review of songs currently available was conducted. Most songs were not linked to the Australian curriculum and limited in the range of pedagogical practices they would support. There were many songs for lower primary but very few for upper primary. A new project, ScienceSing, aims to create song-based educational resources that are linked to the Australian Curriculum and specifically designed to engage upper primary students with science. Based on the results from a preliminary survey, eight curriculum-linked songs have been professionally produced. The songs are contemporary and, along with linked teaching resources, will be freely available for use under a Creative Commons licence. A study to determine the value of these songs as an engagement tool and the potentially to extend their use to support learning of scientific concepts and as a basis for student-centred and collaborative pedagogies is currently in progress.