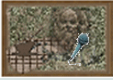


## Audience



### Socrates Café Book

Students who are highly able / gifted in grades 4 to 6



### Socrates Café Topical

Students who are highly able / gifted in grades 5 to 6

## Related Programs



Ad Astra Senior  
Ad Astra Junior



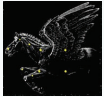
CELO Arty Facts Junior  
CELO Arty Facts Senior



GameCraft



Infinity Squared



Pegasus Project



Rockin' with Lil' Elvis



SmartBots



So Far So Good!

## Selection of students


The selection of students should be based on the following criteria:


- students who regularly complete set work early and are looking for further challenge
- students with demonstrated advanced ability in specific areas of the curriculum (e.g. numeracy, literacy, science ...) working at a minimum of one standard above their peers
- students with a 'passion' for an area of learning which is not readily covered by the regular curriculum
- students for whom underachievement is considered to be a real or potential issue.

Although formal identification as a gifted student is not an essential criteria for selection, schools are encouraged to nominate identified students where appropriate and use available resources such as the Identification Package to support nominations.

## Centre for Extended Learning Opportunities (CELO)

### Contact details

 (03) 6233 5181

 (03) 6233 7199

 32 Bayfield Street, ROSNY TAS 7018

 celo@education.tas.gov.au

 <http://www.education.tas.gov.au/celo>



# SOCRATES CAFÉ Book SOCRATES CAFÉ Topical



## Guidelines

## General Guidelines

CELO online extension programs have high quality content and standards of delivery. Places in programs are usually limited to a maximum of 5 students per school, with each student accessing a maximum of one program at a time. Video / DVD based programs will give priority to schools with 5 enrolments.

These programs are managed by an **online teacher**, who develops the work, maintains the site and works with the students online.

### Support person

Each student or group on the program needs a **support person** in their school who may be a teacher, teacher aide or other school endorsed person. The role of the support person is crucial to ensure that students fully engage with the program.

Students may need:

- guidance in using their time effectively
- reassurance that they are 'on the right track' e.g. with a problem solving task
- help / permission to print in order to work away from the computer
- help locating materials that are needed for activities
- help digitally recording work or organising postage
- technical support if their machine won't function correctly.

There is also the expectation that the support person will keep up with the changing materials in the program, and maintain a dialogue with the delivery teacher and classroom teacher if using the withdrawal model.

### Time

Students require a minimum of 45 minutes school time per week for most online programs. This will vary from all online to mostly offline as students access online materials/activities, and work to create their responses. It is expected that students will have appropriate offline time. Students may benefit from printing a discussion point or assignment for reference when working away from the computer. Students are also able to use the site from home, library or any place where they have internet access.

Online extension programs may be accessed as a withdrawal or integrated model; i.e. with students gathered from classes to a central location supervised by a support person, as an integral part of the student's classroom program or as a combination of both.

### Regular Contact

There is the expectation that students will communicate regularly through the online tools provided.

CELO online extension programs use a delivery application which tracks student activity. If a student does not log on the delivery teacher will try to find out why. If there is a reason why the student is not accessing the site (e.g. going on extended holiday) the delivery teacher needs to be informed.

### Work

Students are required to access the program regularly, work within the timelines and complete required activities and / or assignments to the expectations of the delivery teacher and support person.

### Acceptable use

Students must have signed an Acceptable Use Agreement in their school, outlining appropriate behaviour when using Information and Communication Technology. Repeated or high level incidents of inappropriate behaviour will result in the student's removal from the program.

## Socrates Café Guidelines

### Purpose

*Socrates Café has two main purposes:*

- to provide activities that enrich and challenge students who have been identified as highly able / gifted, and
- to encourage social and intellectual communication between students situated in geographically separate sites.

### Programs are based on:

- online discussion of issues involved in books such as *The Rabbits* by John Marsden & Shaun Tan, *Fox* by Margaret Wild & Ron Brooks **or**
- topical issues based on news around the world and current events.

Each program will include a total of 6 discussion points with a new discussion point posted each week for 6 weeks and extension questions which arise from student responses. Discussion points will begin on a Monday with responses closing on Friday.

### Requirements for participation:

- A contact person / facilitator (who may be the same person). They need to be familiar with WebCT and be allocated time to work with the selected students.

- A minimum of 1 timetabled teacher/student discussion session (approx 45 minutes) per week. This time is for talking about the weekly discussion point, receiving clarification on the issues involved, formulating ideas, maybe writing a group response, getting feedback and initially helping with designing a homepage. It is desirable that students post their responses after this session.
- All students will design a homepage which serves to introduce them to the rest of the online group.
- Each student is required to post a well-considered response to the weekly discussion point and respond to others.
- Students will need to access a computer several times during the week to check discussions, read feedback, and respond to extension questions that may arise from online postings throughout the week.

NB: A copy (or multiple copies) of the listed book is required for group discussion and must be available for students for 8 – 10 weeks.

The progress of the students will be tracked and a certificate issued on successful completion of the program.



### Course Content

Contains a welcome, how to get started and instructions for a homepage.



### Assignments

Contains the assignments to be read and responded to.



### Bulletins (Discussions)

Students respond to discussion points and questions, read other responses and build upon them. Students need to watch for new topics, be encouraged to respond to them and interact with other students.

Students should understand the need for postings to be well thought out responses, demonstrating higher order thinking.



### Student homepages

This is the meeting place for the members of Socrates Café. Each child should make his/her own page in order to have a visible presence in the class.



### Email

Students are encouraged to interact socially and can email by clicking the email icon and using the browse button to see who to email. **NB:** this email operates only for Socrates Café.