



Dear parent/guardians,

Ecolinc's **S.T.E.A.M Ahead** program is part of the Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series, an initiative of the Department of Education and Training that provides enrichment opportunities to extend high ability students in Victorian government schools so that they are better supported to excel and reach their full potential.

Your son/daughter _____ has been selected to participate in the **S.T.E.A.M Ahead 'Christmas Advent: What's in your backyard?'** program on either November 24th or 26th, 2026.

'Christmas Advent: What's in your backyard?' has been designed for Years F-2 high ability students. This video conference is presented in collaboration with **Australian Environmental Education**. Students will explore the diversity of animals that live in our local areas at Christmas. Look for the clues that are left behind to discover more about these amazing animals. There will be plenty of hands-on and Q&A opportunities for students. A short break follows Karen's engaging workshop which features live animals. Then an Ecolinc team member will guide students to create a 3D model out of clay of one of the flora or fauna Karen has explored. Each child will position their piece into a classroom advent calendar.

This program is fully funded and therefore there is no cost to participate. The program will be delivered virtually via video conference.

Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series

S.T.E.A.M Ahead – 'Christmas Advent: What's in your backyard?'

I give permission for my child _____ to participate in the

VCES S.T.E.A.M Ahead – 'Christmas Advent : What's in your backyard?' program on either November 24th or 26th, 2026.

I understand that this program will be delivered virtually by **Ecolinc Science & Technology Innovation Centre** (Department of Education & Training).

Parent name:

Date:

Signature:
