

Small Groups

Small group activities are essential in any classroom, particularly the early childhood classroom. However, group activities often take a lot of time to prepare and teachers sometimes have difficulty in generating lesson ideas. The **Smart Learner** Manual contains over 60 activity plans, as well as ideas for fine motor development and using the environment in everyday learning, amongst others. You will never be short of ideas or resources for your small group time.

The following is an example of how **Smart Learner** can be used during Literacy Groups.

A class of 24 children, divided into four small groups, for a half hour session.

Group 1 - Wipe clean pre-writing cards

Group 2 - Felt Stories using the felt board and felt pieces

Group 3 - Making words with the magnetic letters and board

Group 4 - Ordering the alphabet using the alphabet cards.

In this example, only four components of **Smart Learner** have been used. There are so many other components so you could divide the children into even smaller groups. Perhaps use the **Smart Learner Assessment Checklist** during this time as part of your assessment program.

The **Smart Learner Assessment Checklist** can be downloaded from this site.