

## STEFANIA GIAMMINUTI

Stefania is an Early Childhood teacher from Rome, Italy. She is currently a full-time PhD student, in receipt of a University Postgraduate Award, in the Graduate School of Education, The University of Western Australia.

A recipient of the prestigious Creswick Foundation Fellowship for 2006, Stefania has recently returned from a unique six-month research internship in the municipal infant-toddler centres and pre-schools of the city of Reggio Emilia, Italy.

In Reggio Emilia, Stefania investigated research questions in dialogue with educators, children, and families. She observed how culture is created and learning communities are built through processes of pedagogical documentation. She is currently researching in dialogue with educators, children, and families at Bold Park Community School in Perth, Western Australia.

Stefania is interested in socio-constructivist research, theory and practice, and in the implications of reflecting on the Reggio Emilia educational project in other cultural contexts. Hailing from a mixture of cultural backgrounds and experiences (Italy, U.S.A., Australia), she is challenged to reflect on the role of relationships, listening, research, and culture and context in teaching and learning.

Stefania's experience combines an understanding of research and practice in context. She recognizes the need for educators to see the extraordinary in the ordinary by learning and researching with and about young children, and she reflects on how we can create a shared culture of school and childhood by building relationships with children, families and the community.

Stefania has been invited to tell her stories at conferences and workshops throughout Australia.