



## Teaching children old fashion hand crafts with a contemporary twist!

The Free Range Living emporium opened its doors in November 2011, showcasing a gorgeous selection of contemporary Australian made gifts, fashion and home wares. This creative hub is set alongside The Endeavour Café and Art Gallery at Kurnell, opposite the Kamay Botany Bay National Park.

Sisters Deni Fowle and Loren Zoka are the creative minds behind this concept space. Having spent the last few years growing her children's eco fashion label, Cheeky Chickies, Deni felt it was time to find a permanent home for the collection, alongside a collective variety of beautifully handcrafted products from fellow designers she has met along the way. Embarking on this journey was exciting, but a little daunting, so Deni was relieved when her sister Loren, an Interior Designer, jumped on board for the ride!

What also lends to the uniqueness of Free Range Living is its "Creative Learning Space", a purpose built crafting section, housing a large custom built work table and floor to ceiling supplies storage.

During the recent summer School Holidays, FRL invited children to participate in a variety of workshops designed to develop skills and knowledge in creative design and hand craft techniques. Participants ranged in age from 3.5 to 13 years of age. Many kids, having never picked up a needle or thread, completed the workshops with their own hand crafted creations and left inspired to create further. With our "summer" being rained out most days, it is refreshing to see kids engage in creative activities, rather than spending hours on the computer or in front of the TV.

Workshop themes varied from "Fantastically Fabulous Fashion", with local fashion designer Laura Maidment, to "Bling It On Jewellery" "CreArt Wall Art" and "Plushie Palooza" run by Deni. Kurnell Art Gallery artist Olga Kolesnik also ran a workshop in Drawing/Painting.

With the success of these workshops, and increasing interest for ongoing creative opportunities, Free Range Living will now be offering regular timetable events, classes and creative birthday parties. This will include a Thursday afternoon class with Laura Maidment (for 8year plus), Saturday morning workshops with Deni, and Adult workshops will also commence on Wednesdays, starting with local textiles and creative designer Kristen Doran offering beginners Embroidery Skills.

To find out more about the Free Range Living emporium, and the workshops and parties held in their creative learning space, visit their website [www.freerangeliving.co](http://www.freerangeliving.co) or in person at Shop 1. 2 4 Prince Charles Parade, Kurnell NSW 2231

