



# Mary-Ruth Mendel

## Biography

Co-founder and Chairman of the Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation.  
Speech-Language Pathologist. Formerly principal co-owner of The Sydney Literacy  
Centre.

Mrs Mendel is the author of programs and courses including the Early Language and  
Literacy Program, the Learning to Read and Write in First Language program and CALIL –  
Coding Aboriginal Languages for Indigenous Literacy. The ALNF's projects are designed  
for all Australian children and their families, particularly those who are new arrivals to  
Australia, low socio-economic communities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
communities.

Mary-Ruth's accolades and appointments include: Australia Day Ambassador- Inaugural  
Judge on the Prime Minister's Literary Awards- Executive Member on the Federal Otitis  
Media Task Force- Consultant on NSW Minister of Aboriginal Affairs Task Force -  
Recommendation for Sydney's Top 100 Most Influential People- Guest speaker at the  
Inaugural World Literacy Summit UK- Invited presenter at the House of Representatives  
Inquiry into Teaching Aboriginal Languages in Indigenous Communities.

