

Class reading survey – Year 5

Software - Resources

PC, Information Workshop (Black Cat), or other database program e.g. Primary Database (Granada), Word processing program to create questionnaires.

Context

To raise profile the profile of the local library and reading in general the children were visited by a storyteller and then created a database which contained information on their reading habits.

Organisation

Whole class introduction and demonstration children to add their own record and then work in pairs searching the database and analysing the information.

Activity

Initially the class had a brainstorming session where they came up with ideas for questions that could be included in their questionnaire. They decided on a list of questions and the teacher demonstrated how to set up the database and input data. The children then took turns adding a record and putting their responses to the questions into the database. The children were shown how to translate questions into search criteria that could be used to find answers from the database. The children then searched the database finding answers to questions set by the teacher. They were asked to analyse the information they had collated and were able to produce a range of graphs and charts.

Conclusion – Extension work

The children were asked to think of other applications for the use of a database and some of these were explored e.g. staff cars, favourite music survey.

Curriculum links

Maths

- Collect, represent and interpret data, using the computer as a tool for exploring and representing data
- Draw meaningful conclusions from data and graphs and communicate these using appropriate language.

English

- Make a range of contributions in discussions depending on the activity and purpose of the talk.
- Use the characteristics of different kinds of writing.

ICT curriculum link

Communicating and Handling Information

- Generate and communicate their ideas in different forms, using text, tables, pictures and sound as appropriate.
- Enter and store information.
- Retrieve, process and display information that has been stored.
- They compare their use of ICT with other methods.

Teacher comments

The children thoroughly enjoyed the activity it gave reading a high profile as well as developing ICT, maths and communication skills. All children contributed to each aspect of the activity and it was particularly beneficial for lower ability pupils and those lacking in confidence.

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