

E-mailing book reviews – Year 5

Software - Resources

Book reviews written on the computer, E-mail facility and printer. Floppy disks to copy from one computer to another.

Context

The children were writing book reviews/reports as part of their literacy work so sending them as e-mails or attachments to e-mails gave the children experience of a new ICT Skill.

Organisation

The children wrote book reviews in small mixed ability groups typing them onto the computer. In supervised groups they sent the reviews as e-mails to other schools, each taking a turn to help send, receive and print.

Activity

The children typed book reviews onto the computer in mixed ability groups taking it in turns to type. Some children had experience of copying their work to disk to take to the computer which had E-mail access. Some groups sent the reviews as e-mails and others sent them as attachments. The written reviews were sent to four other schools. Each review sent and received was printed out and these were later put into a class booklet. Adult help was available throughout the activity as this was the first experience of e-mailing the children had had. Thank you e-mails were later sent by the children with greater independence. The reviews and advantages of sending e-mail were discussed.

Conclusion – Extension work

The children had a book of reviews written by children from other schools which were discussed with regards layout and content. This could be an ongoing activity for individual children to carry out independently.

Curriculum links

English

- Pupils should be given opportunities to develop as enthusiastic, independent and reflective readers.
- Pupils should be taught to consider in detail the quality and depth of what they read, responding imaginatively to the plot, characters, ideas, vocabulary and organisation of language in literature.
- Pupils should be given opportunities to recognise the organisational, structural and presentational features of different types of text and to consider some of the appropriate terms to enable them to discuss the texts they read.

ICT curriculum link

Communicating and Handling Information

Pupils should be taught to use ICT equipment and software to communicate, share and exchange ideas and information in a variety of forms.

Teacher comments

The children were amazed at the speed of the e-mail sending to different towns compared to the postal service.