

Forest Giants – Mixed, specialist Speech and language class

Software - Resources

PC compatible with any art package software, the particular one used in this study was "Dazzle".

Context

The class had been reading The Forest Giants as their focused book for the Literacy Hour.

Organisation

The work was organised on a one to one basis. The teacher read the story of the "Forest Giants" to the whole class then the NNEB worked with individual children on the PC throughout the session.

Activity

The class had been reading The Forest Giants as their focused book for the Literacy Hour. The class teacher had prepared activities around the text, one being creative work using "Dazzle". Each child had to create their own 'giant' using a variety of the tools from the programme. The NNEB was continually prompting the children for explanations and reasons for their choices, therefore developing their expressive language skills. The work was printed out and displayed.

Conclusion – Extension work

The quality of the work that was generated from the activity was very pleasing. The activity captured the pupil's imaginative skills. The NNEB then scanned the pupil's favourite illustration from the book and pasted it alongside their own work with a typed explanation of their 'giant'.

Curriculum links

Strong links with Art and Design, English – Speaking and listening.

ICT curriculum link

Creating pictures: Using a graphics package with a range of tools and edit features.

Combining text and graphics: Using IT equipment and software to communicate, share and exchange ideas and information in a variety of forms, incorporating text, graphics and pictures.

The teacher was keen to develop the graphing skills of the class. She intended to do this through her maths lessons. Overall a successful lesson although the input from the children was minimal as regards IT skills.

Teacher comments

The teacher and the NNEB were stunned by how well the children coped with the levels of IT and the amount of creative language and discussion that was generated by the art work that was produced. They were determined to apply this approach in other lessons.