



Cross-curricular Health lifestyles



There are many benefits of teaching through a theme when teaching cross-curricular it facilitates active learning, initiates transferable skills and helps children make the link between subjects UKessays (2013).

Intro

This poster will introduce two cross-curricular teaching models and how they could be applied to year 4 KS2 class ensuring progression and curriculum coverage.



Hierarchical cross-curricular teaching and learning

Method - Hierarchical cross-curricular approaches aims to make progression in one subject whilst also teaching areas of another. Its methods are to enhance the learning in a specific subject with the help from another.

Why Cross-curricular?

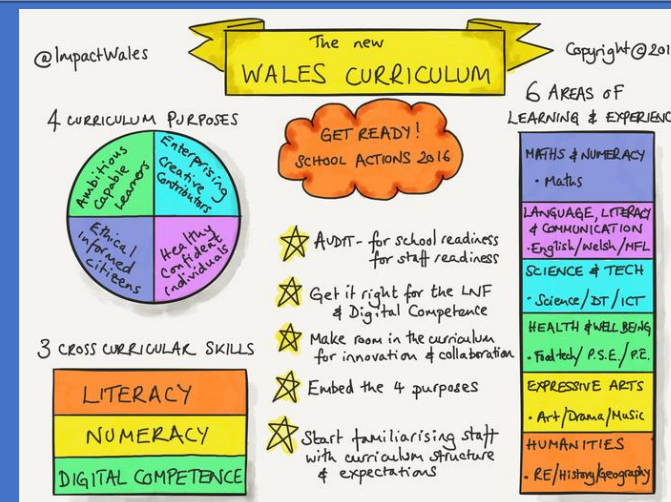
Teaching literacy and numeracy cross-curricular was highlighted as one of the key recommendations in Donaldsons (2015) curriculum reform, he suggest that 'literacy, numeracy and digital competence should be Cross-curriculum Responsibilities for all teachers and people who work with children and young people' (Donaldson 2015). In support (Johnson 2013) suggests teaching cross-curricular can 'help students re-acquire the thirst for knowledge they were born with'.

Theme based cross-curricular teaching and learning

Method - Theme based cross-curricular teaching and learning is where a theme is used to generate lessons and learning through several subjects and disciplines. If done correctly theme based cross-curricular teaching can enhance the learning in numerous subjects not just two or three, but for success it must be thought out and clear links must be made to the overarching theme.

Hierarchical cross-curricular lessons

To integrate hierarchical cross-curricular learning a subject must explicitly aide the teaching of another. During a PE lesson where children will be given an obstacle course and then blind-folded they must work in pairs to give clear and concise instructions on how to complete the course safely. In turn improving the children's oracy skills by organising their talk so that desired audience can follow what is being said (LNF). A geography task will then be given to the children they will be given a map of their local area and if they were to incorporate a daily mile in to their lives, how far would that be on their local area maps. Thus, developing numeracy where they will be using compass points to describe directions (LNF) and using measuring skills (LNF). Another opportunity to develop both Literacy and digital competency is for the children to create an advert giving the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and what they must do to achieve this. Literacy work will be done through script writing which will improve many skills within the writing strand of LNF. The children will then use their ipads video software (DCF) and green screens to successfully create their adverts modifying as they go along to ensure the end result is the advert they desire.



My Fruit Bowl theme

As the over arching theme is Healthy lifestyle, introduce the class to a fruit bowl full of different fruit of shape and colour, this will act as the theme for the lessons (My fruit bowl). Through previous lessons the children will already have an understanding of healthy eating and the benefits of having fruit within their diet. Developing literacy, the children will use the fruit bowl as a stimulus for descriptive writing developing the skill of adapting what they write to the purpose, reader and choosing words appropriately (LNF). Regarding Numeracy the children will look at each fruit within the fruit bowl and estimate the size of the fruit and then using measuring tools (LNF) find out whether they were right or wrong, this could be developed further asking the children to convert the metric units of length from MM to CM and visa versa (LNF). To develop Digital competency the children will be tasked with making their own fruit bowl, they will each be given £5 to spend on their fruit bowl, they will need to search different supermarkets on the ipads using keywords and search techniques (DCF) and make the most valued for money fruit bowl, this could also be developed further where the children could be tasked with making a spreadsheet (DCF) comparing the prices of fruit from a variety of supermarkets. These tasks could also be seen to help develop the children's financial literacy.

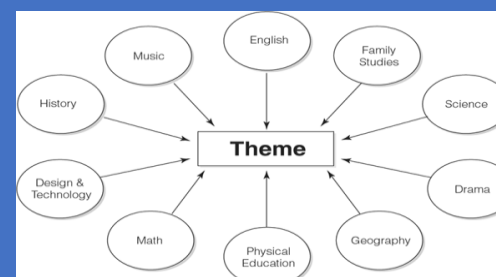
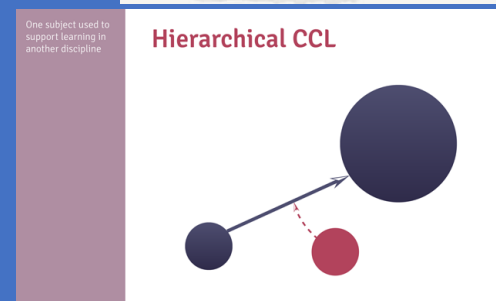
Strengths and Limitations

Strengths -

- For teachers who may have confidence issues in a certain subject this hierarchical teaching is a way in which they could imbed and gain confidence in that subject.
- Can be easily assessed, giving teachers an understanding on whether or not the children are making the links.

Limitations -

- As Barnes (2015) explains the issue with hierarchical cross curricular teaching is that in some cases if care is not taken to the 'inferior' subject than the development and progression in that subject could become lost.
- Teachers may use this as an opportunity not to teach a subject in which they don't have much confidence in thus the children not being able to explore the subject fully



Strengths and Limitations

Strengths -

- If done correctly theme-based learning can help to motivate children's learning and help spark creative thinking (Education Scotland, 2013).
- Theme based learning can also spark creativity in teachers enable them to explore different avenues within their teaching linking one subject with another.

Limitations -

- If the lessons are not thought and prepared properly then unclear links can limit learning.
- A theme based learning experience can sometimes seem very teacher led and can sometimes takeaway the opportunity for child led experiences this is supported by Talay-Ongan & Ap (2013).