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communication for all

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Norfolk County Council
at your service

CITB

Celebrating success in Norfolk Schools

Architects in Schools 2003

The Architects in Schools 2003 initiative, supported by CITB, the Norfolk Association of Architects and led by Norfolk Education Advisory Service, provided a unique opportunity for Norfolk young people to work with professional architects to improve their learning. The successful outcomes are celebrated here in this publication for all schools in the LEA to enjoy.

Advisers involved in this programme are Mike Hodkinson and Chris Hemmings. They can be contacted on Tel: 01603 433276 and Susan Falch-Lovesey on Tel: 01553 766872

Education Department - Director of Education Dr Bryan Slater
www.norfolk.gov.uk

Coltishall Primary School

Architect involved - Alan Green

Teachers involved - Sally Ives, Linda Saville

Other adults involved - Julie Barkeet (LSA)

Outline of Project

A Reception and Year 3 project to provide additional space to relieve an overcrowded playground by creating a Play Shack. The Play Shack will be a small building that promotes imaginative play for all year groups. It will include specific features requested by each class.

Outcomes

The children learnt how to work together cooperatively, evaluating ideas and making changes throughout each stage. They had to consider the needs of all age groups and design according to these needs. Alan Green, the architect, showed how to make scale models and how to put all the ideas together in a logical way.

Curricular Links

D&T: Planning, accurate measuring, safe use of tools, choice of materials, appearance of finished models and evaluating and making improvements.
Art: Creativity and imagination, using a variety of materials for specific results.
ICT: Word processing, digital camera.
Maths: Measuring, scale drawing and modelling.
PSHE: Cooperation.
Literacy: Speaking and listening, reporting, writing for a purpose, making notes.

Raising Standards

The children became totally absorbed in the project and were able to work together and share ideas cooperatively. Their drawing, measuring and designing skills have improved.

Benefits to Pupils, Staff and School

The whole school has shown enormous interest in the display of our work and The Friends of the school are prepared to find the funds to bring the idea to life. It raised the school profile and children were proud of the exhibition in the Forum. It also developed the skills of the staff, encouraging us to think about D&T from a different perspective, giving the children choices and not always being so prescriptive.

Additional comments

Alan Green stepped into the position at the last minute and gave his full support to the project. He was generous with his time and became totally involved. We are very grateful to him. The finished results were fantastic and we all felt a great sense of achievement. The children can't wait to see it become a reality.

St Edmund's Community Foundation School

Architect involved - Roy Payne

Teacher involved - Marianne Stevens

Other adults involved - Joy Binns

Outline of Project

To design and build a scale model of a cottage for Discovery Wood, a woodland area created five years ago.

Outcomes

Study of follies and garden architecture provided a context for pupils' own ideas. Children were able to build several models using a variety of materials. they enjoyed working with the architect Roy, who inspired and encouraged them.

Curricular Links

A lot of design and planning and use of their imaginations. Children learnt how to use plaster of paris for the first time, and learnt about structures and the use of materials. There was much high level speaking and listening as they shared their ideas and worked on the models, important for our children.

Raising Standards

Childrens' confidence increased, and those who saw the project through to the end gained the satisfaction of seeing their ideas materialise over time.

Benefits to Pupils, Staff and School

The overwhelming impression was one of great fun to see the project come alive through the childrens' own ideas. They had the satisfaction through their trip to Norwich of seeing their work admired by a wider audience and of seeing their photograph in the newspaper.

Sustainable and Environmental Issues Covered

Children considered the sustainable use of materials, wastage of resources, and selecting appropriate materials for the purpose. They also considered where best to place the cottage in the wood from an environmental point of view.

Additional comments

Roy Payne was full of enthusiasm for the project, and captured the children's imaginations. Phase two is to translate the scale models into the real thing - are there any excited sponsors out there!?

Southtown First School

Architect involved - Craigh Page

Teacher involved - Jeanette Ward

Other adults involved - Sue Gill (Headteacher)

Outline of Project

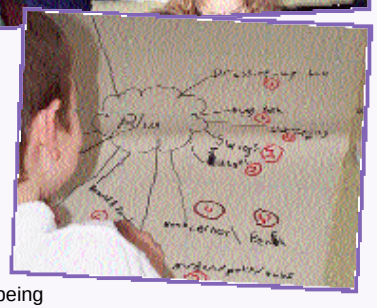
Year 3 (Red Class) wanted to develop an inner courtyard area which was being used by the under fives as an outside area. As a class we decided that the site should be developed into a sheltered classroom full of things we could touch, see and hear, with additional water and garden areas.

Outcomes

Working with an architect gave the children an understanding of planning which inspired creativity and the realisation that a lot of work had to be completed prior to the construction of the model. The children had to work collaboratively and cooperate with each other. They learnt how to compromise and, therefore, how to make decisions which valued opinions but rejected other ideas.

Curricular Links

D&T:	Structures
PSHE:	Democracy/respect for property and ideas.
Art:	Investigating patterns and colour.
Geography:	Improving the view from our window, including recycling issues.
ICT:	Websites, digital camera.
Literacy:	Planning areas, listing materials, asking questions of other classes.
Numeracy:	Measurement, 2D and 3D shapes.



Raising Standards

The development of creative thinking and children taking responsibility of their own learning. I provided the materials, the children developed their own ideas and solved their own problems. All the children were actively involved in their own and other children's learning.

Benefits to Pupils, Staff and School

This project is what D&T and learning should encompass. The children had a school project brought to life and given a realistic perspective. They have all been able to contribute to something that is worthwhile for them. This sparked a project that could have been discussed in a business not just in a classroom. Children in Red Class now aspire to being architects and teachers.

Sustainable and Environmental Issues Covered

The children wanted to understand the implications of the materials used on the environment. This resulted in the children wanting marmoleum floors and solar powered heating. Research into using wood from replanted forests was also undertaken as well as research relating to our existing eco-schools project.

Additional comments

This project was the best design technology project imaginable. It gave us enthusiasm, creativity, enjoyment, discussion and lots of laughter along the way. Craigh Page was extremely supportive, and we thank him for his help. Would we like to do it again? Red Class, when asked replied, "When can we start?"

Lodge Lane First School

Architect involved - Gary Pearce

Teachers involved - Catrina Hilditch, Joanne Daubney, Jan Dye, Angela Lemmon

Other adults involved - Trish Rampling

Outline of Project

We have an extremely small library and many books are kept in a corridor. The children also think that it is dull and cluttered. We wanted the children to consider the function of the space as well as how it could look. Their models and designs reflect this and the making skills they have learnt during the project.

Outcomes

The children are now confident with using a wide range of materials and tools. Gary, our architect, helped the children evaluate the existing space and raised their awareness of materials and techniques.
It was good for the children to work in a 'real life' context. The building of our new library, incorporating some of the childrens' ideas, begins in the Autumn Term. It has raised the profile of D&T within the school.

Curricular Links

D&T:	Cutting and joining a variety of materials. Planning and evaluating designs.
Literacy:	Debating, lists, instructions and reports.
Numeracy:	Measuring, spatial awareness.
ICT:	Research using Eye2eye Britain, using digital camera, word processing, drawing packages.
PSHE:	Cooperation, compromise, team work.
Geography:	Maps and plans.

Raising Standards

The childrens' confidence and competence in model making and design improved enormously during the library project. The exhibition at the Forum showed the children that the work was highly valued and allowed them to share it more effectively with their parents.

Benefits to Pupils, Staff and School

As it was a potentially 'real' project children and staff were more inspired and motivated. We appreciated being able to call upon the expertise of an architect. The high profile of the project enabled them to present their skills to younger children in the school.

Sustainable and Environmental Issues Covered

Gary Pearce talked to the children about possibilities for the use of sustainable materials in the new library. We discussed whether the materials we used were renewable or not and reasons for using them.

Additional comments

Gary was very committed to our project and gave us a lot of his time both to work with the children and organise the final exhibition. Many parents visited the exhibition and commented on how much they enjoyed the children's work.

Hingham Primary School

Architect involved - Ruth Blackman Structural Engineer - John Ayling

Teachers involved - David Holland, Janet Page, Sue Bate

Other adults involved - Carolyn Edwards (LSA), Victoria Hicks (parent)

Outline of Project

We wanted to design an amazing new sports hall, as our present one is far too small. We haven't got enough space for apparatus to be used in PE and we cannot fit everybody in for assembly. At lunchtimes, we also have to eat our packed lunch in the field, even if it is snowing, (only joking). When designing our super-duper sports hall we envisaged that it would be used by the whole of the community and be made from sustainable materials.

Outcomes

We really enjoyed thinking of all the different shapes and sizes our hall could be, what we would put in it and what materials we would use. We loved the freedom to be creative and think the impossible! Our architect and structural engineer really made us think about how practical our ideas would be in the 'real' world and the effect the designs would have on the existing school as well as the environment. We thought about what was suggested to us and evaluated, changed and improved both our designs and models.

Curricular Links

Literacy:	Speaking and listening, note-taking, labelling, writing the bid to take part in the project.
Maths:	Estimating, measuring, construction of 2 and 3D shapes, scale, proportion. fractions, decimals, symmetry, position.
Science:	Investigating the uses of different materials, energy.
ICT:	Photographs using a digital camera, word-processing of labels and signs.
D&T:	Identifying a problem, designing and making a solution, woodworking skills, evaluating and modifying, safety.
Geography:	Direction, location, impact on the local and global environment.
History:	Looking at pictures of building through the centuries.
Art:	Selecting and using a range of materials, choosing and mixing appropriate colours, drafting plans.
PSHE:	Cooperation, debating, listening, compromising, valuing each other's ideas, sharing, citizenship, health and safety, patience!

Raising Standards

We have greatly improved our design and modelling skills and now know how to saw safely and in the right direction! We have also thought deeply about all sorts of wonderful things, discussed and changed our ideas. Knowing that our work was going to be seen by hundreds of people in Norwich made us think very carefully about the quality of our presentation.

Benefits to Pupils, Staff and School

We all got a wonderful sense of achievement from successfully fulfiling our design brief. We also felt particularly proud of the fact that our work was exhibited in the Forum. Being chosen to represent our school and work with an architect and a structural engineer was also something very special. The governors are looking into ways of funding a new hall and we feel delighted that we have contributed to the project.

Sustainable and Environmental Issues Covered

We thought about using wood from renewable sources, using solar power to light energy-efficient bulbs. We also agreed to 'buy' materials from local suppliers to reduce pollution.

Additional Comments

We, the children from Class 5, would like to thank Mrs Blackman, Mr Ayling and Mr Hemmings for helping us with our project. We feel so proud to have been chosen from so many to take part and feel even more proud of our designs and models that were exhibited the Forum.

St. Peter & St. Paul CE VC Primary School

Architect involved - Nigel Myhill

Teachers involved - Rosie Newport, Sally Rigby

Outline of Project

Year 2 and Year 3 children worked as a design company to design an interactive role play area for the Reception children. The idea was that design work and research initially undertaken by children would generate the money which would later be used to purchase materials for the construction of the role play area.

Outcomes

The children loved the concept of being able to earn money from doing work. They began editing their work to ensure they got the maximum payment available. Some groups become real entrepreneurs and would hire tools then sub contract them to other companies, thus making a tidy profit!
The children loved working with Nigel our architect. He gave them a great insight into structures and measuring.

Curricular Links

D&T:	Planning, designing and making models, reasoning, choice of resources, safe working.
English:	Speaking and listening
Maths:	Money, measuring, data handling, proportion - scale.
PSHE:	Team work, cooperation.
ICT:	Research using websites, using digital cameras, data handling.

Raising Standards

The childrens' ability to work in teams and to compromise on ideas showed great improvement. They showed amazing commitment to the project and took a pride in their work. They saw a real purpose to their work which they were very keen to share with other people. The accuracy of their measuring, the detail shown in their designs and the level of focus from all the children showed great improvement throughout the entire project.

Benefits to Pupils, Staff and School

The project gave the children a real sense of ownership of their work. The local community came in on mass to view the models on our open day which the children took great delight in. The display at the Forum gave the children a real sense of achievement. It made the children feel that their opinions and ideas are valued as well.

Additional comments

A big thank you to everybody who helped make this project so brilliant. The children got a real 'buzz' from their work and it gave everybody an opportunity to experience how creative the classroom can be.