

Schools' Library Service and teacher Collaboration Case Study year 6 'Inspirational Leaders' in RE

Learning Objectives:-

- Use Sources to acquire background information and brainstorm ideas for further enquiry
- Use and independently select on-line resources to find information
- Use note taking strategies to record and organise their information
- Cite all sources used according to model provided

Planning

Teacher and librarian met during the unit planning at the beginning of term. We discussed the format and agreed a lead role for each session alternating between the librarian and teacher with both in all sessions.

Lesson 1

This was led by the teacher who introduced the topic and explained what she wanted from the children at the end of the topic i.e. poster, leaflet or PowerPoint/talk.

We brain stormed their ideas for inspirational leaders that they wished to find out about, and this list was passed on to the librarian.

Lesson 2

The first session led by the librarian was:-

- the use of key words to start a research topic,
- an introduction to Junior Librarian, and how to access it themselves using keywords.

The pupils decided on their chosen Inspirational Leader, and were shown how to record the book details – Author, Title and class number. Pupils found the books themselves from the school library, and had some guidance on making notes.

Lesson 3

The following sessions focussed on embedding the correct use of Junior Librarian and a reminder of note taking strategies, and then went on to focus on using keywords in :-

- Britannica

- DK Find out

Pupils were then given time to note take and evaluate which sources were most relevant to their needs.

(They had a list of key questions to shape their research, and a range of presentation choices).

The librarian then demonstrated how to reference from a book, Britannica and DK Findout and pupils were told that they must make a note of this to add to their final piece of work. They were encouraged to cite at least two sources.

Lesson 4 and 5

With the teacher using the resources for continued research and time to create their poster/leaflet or powerpoint.

Pupils continued with the notes they had made the previous week, and were encouraged to use the list of key questions to help them focus on what sort of information to include

Lesson 6

Pupils presented their work with both the Teacher and librarian looking for

- Quality of information and presentation
- Research skills.

Outcomes:-

The topic was previously taught by the pupils having a set of books/ photocopied articles on their tables, and they made notes in pairs.

With planning and collaboration with the librarian the teacher reported that:-

- The standard of written work was considerably higher than in previous years.
- The pupils were engaged and increasingly confident.
- They were more critical in the choice of information that they chose to present
- The quality of the writing was better.

Considerations for implementing activity

- Librarian and teacher should plan the unit together at the beginning of term or the term before.
- One hour preparation would be needed initially.
- Dates and times for lessons need to be organised.

- Marking assessment should be discussed. (We agreed that the librarian would grade on referencing and quality of where the information was found)
- Teachers should give librarian a list of 'inspirational people' that they would like the pupils to choose from.
- Librarian would be happy to make suggestions and find others.

Librarian needs to know the context in advance in order to:-

- provide additional resources
- add websites to library catalogue