

Themed units-how to use them

Themed units of work are a common sense approach to teaching and learning. They consist of statutory learning objectives from the QCA schemes of work, and the Primary national Strategy. They have a common development

- They are strongly rooted in literacy texts
- They have links with one or more subjects.
- They allow children and teachers to make natural links between subjects through a common theme
- They hark back to the days of the topic based approach to teaching whilst still delivering the national curriculum learning objectives
- They can be used as a one day teaching package or in the case of longer term supply can be developed over 3-5 days
- They allow you to be creative thinkers which is always a bonus when faced with a challenging class

What not to worry about!

Assessment-as this is a necessity for the teacher; it is unusual that supply teachers are required to assess any work set by the teacher/supply.

Themed units can be delivered and recorded in small ready-made booklets. So the children can take them home at the end of the day.

They do not rely on worksheets, which are the bane of a teacher's life because they have nowhere to stick them!

Examples of themed units are titled Oobleck, and contain a scanned example of cross-curricular planning

Useful websites for further themed units

Themed units are common practise in America and Australia. Any websites from these 2 areas will contain ideas, themes and most importantly resources.

www.sitesforteachers.com

www.enchantedlearning.com

www.csun.edu

www.educatethechildren.co.uk

www.QCA/schemes of work