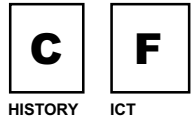


## ICT ACTIVITY 26

Researching the LGfL 'digitalbrain' portal to find out how it can be used to support learning.

**Year Group: 8**



## Resources

LGfL 'digitalbrain' portal, "Community" facility, teacher created on-line History research activity and PowerPoint

## Context (Pupils' prior experience)

This work was carried out during a lunch time club for Gifted and Talented pupils. Pupils had previously used the Internet for research and PowerPoint for presentation but they had not used the LGfL 'digitalbrain' portal.

## Task Description

To find out what is available for pupils within the LGfL 'digitalbrain' portal and how this could be used by pupils to support their learning. Pupils reviewed the portal and produced a PowerPoint presentation summarising what they had found out. They then engaged in 'teacher directed' on-line research activities which focused their attention on one specific area of the portal - "The History of London on the net - HOLNET". Pupils also used e-conferencing to discuss with each other what they had found out.

## Learning Intentions

History: Knowledge and Understanding	ICT: Skills, Knowledge and Understanding	ICT Level		
		KS1	KS2	KS3
Show factual knowledge and understanding of aspects of the history of Britain.	Find information on the Internet and present the findings. Share and exchange information and ideas with others using e-conferencing.	w/1	2/3	4/5
Show increasing depth of factual knowledge and understanding of aspects of the history of Britain.	Select relevant information and use this to present the findings to a specific audience. Share and exchange information and ideas with others using e-conferencing. Critically reflect on their use of ICT.	1/2	3/4	5/6
Pupils use their factual knowledge and understanding of the history of Britain to describe past societies and periods, and to make links between features within and across different periods.	Develop and refine work to enhance its quality using information from a range of sources, using complex lines of inquiry and present ideas in a variety of ways showing a clear sense of audience. They discuss the impact of ICT on society.	2/3	4/5	6/7
<b>History POS Related to task:</b> 4a, 4b, 5c, 7a.	<b>ICT POS related to task:</b> 1a, 1b, 2a, 3a, 3b, 3c, 4a, 4b, 5b			

## Teaching Approach

Teacher introduced pupils to the portal and how to navigate round it. Pupils then worked independently researching the portal, discussed in pairs what they had found out, and presented their findings to the teacher. Pupils then used PowerPoint to present their findings to their audience (other pupils in their year group). Teacher introduced the HOLNET web site within the portal and discussed the key questions to focus on. Teacher also introduced pupils to the e-conference and how to post and open messages. Pupils worked independently researching the HOLNET web site to answer questions and then discussed their findings and ideas using e-conferencing.

## Links with other curriculum areas

**Literacy** – reads and interprets on a web site, writing e-conferencing messages.

## Subject Learning Gains (History)

Pupils were introduced to an on-line History resource HOLNET which they will be able to use in future for any research on 'Victorian London' or 'London at War 1939 - 1945'.



## HISTORY

### History of London on the net

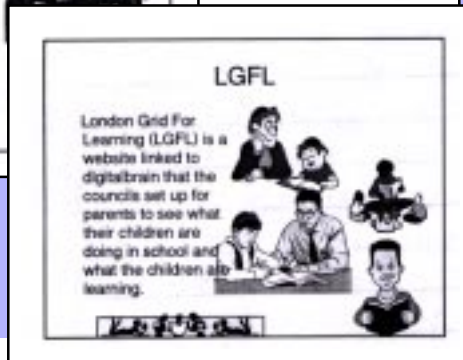
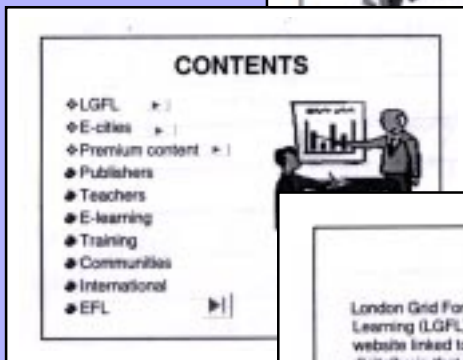
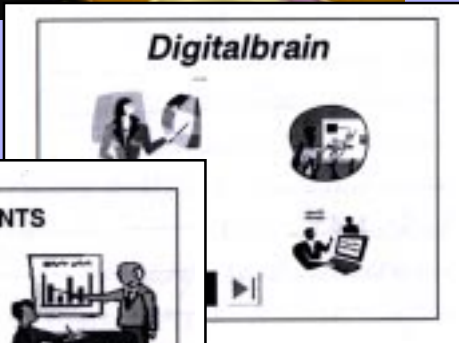
Click on [HOLNET](#)

The History of London web site provides lots of information about the 2nd World War.

- What were schools like in the 2nd World War?
- How did Londoners cope in the air raids?
- What was life like for children in the 2nd World War?

Tell your classmates what you've found out by posting a message in the "discussion". If you have a question, post this to your teacher in the "discussion".

list edit my notes make a note add link



Key stage 3  
Digitalbrain evaluation  
Computer Diary

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date 8/4/03

> What task did you complete?

Research on Digitalbrain Portal.

> What software did you use?

I ~~wrote~~ <sup>presented</sup> my reports on powerpoint in a slide show.

> How did you complete the task?

I completed the task by adding action buttons which take you to different slides and made it a show with the words spinning etc

> Describe any difficulties you had completing the task

The only difficulties I had was getting pictures (my computer at home found that difficult) and typing because I am a slow typer.

> What features of the software did you find helpful? Why?

I found copy, action buttons, slide show, slide design

> What did you learn?

I learnt how to use action buttons to a greater extent, to making a short note very long designing slides, saving on disk and lots more.

Pupils' Evaluation

Teachers' Evaluation

This pupil critically evaluated the LGFL 'digitalbrain' portal and created a well structured presentation for both pupils and teachers. He also used e-discussion confidently to discuss the outcome of his research.

**This pupil is working at ICT Level 5.**

Teachers' Assessment

### ICT Teachers' Evaluation

**Related to the Learning Objectives of the lesson**  
The ICT activity enabled me to complete an interactive educational lesson on researching the DigitalBrain portal. It was suitable for most ages between KS3 to KS4 progression. Most pupils found it very engaging and learnt how to prepare a presentation to an audience.

**Teacher Confidence and Competence**  
I have gained more confidence and competence since completing the task. The activity improved my overall assessment strategy in terms of formative assessment. Teaching the activity is in progress and the results have shown that the interactive nature offers entertainment and understanding of computing skills.

**Hardware and Software Issues**  
The PowerPoint software was used, offered feedback as a tool/technique to move slides and templates. Typing speeds and copying images from the Internet by the pupils (network issues). Resources used were to do with software applications

**Comments**  
The activity proved successful to hardworking pupils and to myself. This activity it is hoped, will be used for the school project on intergrating ICT skills into learning - to add to the DigitalBrain portal as part of the schools outcomes.