

Jungle maths game scoops award for innovation

A Jungle Adventure won the award for Innovation in Learning at the Standard Life Edinburgh Achievement Awards at The Hub this month.

Councillor Rev Ewan Aitken, executive member for Children and Families, said, "I think the Jungle Adventure board game is a great idea. One of the brilliant things about it is that it helps kids learn without even knowing they are learning."

The project, which was supported by CLAN and funded by Clydesdale Bank, was developed by the Family Learning Parents' Group at Brunstane Primary School.

Amanda MacKinnon, one of the parents from the school, said, "We got the idea for the game from a trip to the zoo. We wanted a children's game based on the jungle which would be fun as well as educational".

Barbara Middleton, a family learning worker based in east Edinburgh, said, "The game is for four to seven-year olds and was created by our group to encourage kids to explore their understanding of numeracy in an enjoyable way.

"The children move multi-cultural figures across the board, finding answers to the maths related activity cards and the winner reaches the jungle party at the end.

"It's not just about concentrating on adding sums but about observing other mathematical concepts such as quantity, shape and difference as well. The children retain the information from the game because it is very visually stimulating and actively engaging."



From left, Su Sunderland, Barbara Middleton, Debbie Young and the girls at The Hub.



Trophy and prize

The numeracy game scooped a trophy and £500 prize for Brunstane Primary School, Family Learning Parents' Group.

Barbara said, "We are over the moon that we have won this prize, we had a great launch and there are going to be so many people delighted with this award.

"We would like to use the prize fund to produce more sets of the game, initially to give to schools in Niddrie and Craigmillar, then look to secure further funding to possibly enable every primary one class in Edinburgh schools to have a copy".

For more details about the project email: barbara.middleton@educ.edin.gov.uk

Highly commended

Another project, described in an earlier edition of Beans, was highly commended in the same category of Innovation In Learning - the book entitled **All Write in South Edinburgh** - Writing Lives, Local Learners, Writing Communities.



Colin Ferguson (pictured), one of the contributors, said, "Writing for a book was something I had never done, I thought it was a good

opportunity for me as I'm a bit shy and lack confidence.

"I got great feedback from people at work who read the book which I thought was exciting as I'm not used to showing people my poems. Since the book I've been showing off a bit with my poems, passing them round family and friends that is something I had never done.

"Thanks for the opportunity, my confidence has definitely risen since coming to the group."

To obtain free copies of the book email: resources@clanedinburgh.org or merlyn.bell@educ.edin.gov.uk

Awards celebrate success

Launched six years ago, The Standard Life Edinburgh Awards celebrate projects that demonstrate best practice and innovation throughout the Children and Families Department at The City of Edinburgh Council.

£20 Million for Young People in Scotland

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FUND from the Big Lottery Fund is a new scheme which aims to encourage young people aged 11 – 25 years to participate in a range of positive activities which will improve their physical or psychological wellbeing.

Projects that are interested in applying for the fund should aim to meet at least one outcome from the following list:

- provide young people with opportunities to gain confidence and skills to deal with changes in their lives and which enable them to contribute to their local communities
- enable young people to make decisions about issues/policies that affect them
- provide activities that make young people feel good about themselves.

Applications are encouraged from projects targeting: teenage girls; young people dealing with a range of complex problems, such as homelessness, abuse; young people who don't have positive relationships with their local community/family/friends; or young people with no opportunities to volunteer, or who may face barriers preventing them from volunteering.

The Young People's Fund would particularly like to see projects that:

- help young people gain confidence and skills to become active citizens
- bring young people together from different backgrounds and experiences
- help young people adopt active, healthy and positive lifestyles
- encourage teenage girls to access activities
- remove barriers to volunteering or increase volunteering opportunities
- encourage young people to make positive changes in their behaviour
- support young people through periods of transition.



How much funding is available?

£20 million is available for Scotland. The minimum amount that can be applied for under the 'local project' strand (one local authority area) is £5,000. The maximum amount should be no more than the total indicative allocation for your specific local authority area.

Projects applying for the 'wider inclusion' strand (two or more local authority areas), can apply for grants between £10,000 and £500,000.

Projects carrying out groundbreaking work, which will make a big impact on young people in Scotland can apply for grants between £200,000 and £1 million, under the 'New ideas' strand. However, the average grant size is expected to be in the region of £300,000.

Applicants can apply for revenue and capital costs for a period of one to four years. A proportion of match funding is not required.

Who can apply?

The Young People's Fund is open for applications from:

- community/voluntary/charity organisations
- statutory bodies (e.g. local authorities, community councils)
- limited companies (trading organisations registered with Companies House)
- social enterprises (where profits go back into the community)

If you would like to discuss your project idea call the Scotland Information Team on 0870 240 2391 or visit the website at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/programmes/yyps

Applications can be submitted from 30 August 2005 to 31 August 2007.



RaW Centre

As mentioned in the July issue of Beans, RaW (Reading More and Writing Better) is the BBC's adult literacy campaign. Launched in September, it is part of an entertainment-led three-year drive.

The BBC is creating a network of RaW centres – organisations working informally in their communities and including pubs, sports clubs, libraries, prisons, community centres and workplace learning centres.

Each centre will be encouraging reading and writing for enjoyment, offering informal learning opportunities for adults in collaboration with the BBC.

South Bridge Resource Centre has registered as one of the RaW centres. At the moment, students and tutors at the centre are busy trying out a selection



of the free materials provided which include an interactive DVD, scratch card, magnetic word kit and magazine (with sport, celebrity gossip, real-life stories and quizzes). Will the DVD – 'An a to z tour of Albert Square' – prove to be more popular than EastEnders? We await their feedback with interest!

More games and information are available at www.bbc.co.uk/raw or call the free phone number 0800 150 950.

Thomas and James Dignall, circa 1912, photo studio



The Living Memory Association

has one-day training days on Friday 25 November, 10am – 3pm and Friday 2 December, 10am – 3pm. Contact John McCaughie on 0131 667 0761. Email: john@livingmemory.org.uk



Breaking down barriers

The Disability, Democracy and Society Group is interested in breaking down the barriers faced by disabled people in their everyday lives. The group meets fortnightly at the Thistle Foundation in Craigmillar.

As part of their ongoing campaign to improve the lives of disabled people, members of the group have been delivering Disability Awareness Training to organisations in Craigmillar.

Prior to delivering the training, the group attended a 'Training for Trainers' course. This two-day intensive course was designed to help DDSG members become skilled at delivering their Disability Awareness Programme. It focussed in on training styles, the learning cycle and presentation techniques and gave members an opportunity to develop their IT skills.

The group targeted small local voluntary organisations and projects, which were identified through using Capacity Building Projects directory of local organisations. The organisations were then approached by telephone, in writing and advertising in the Craigmillar Chronicle.

Raymond Harland, project worker for the Citizens for Inclusion Team and facilitator/coordinator for the group, said, "We had a request for training from the Castlebrae Community High School Instep Programme. DDSG trainers attended a health event at the school at which 75 school students engaged with the trainers to raise awareness of DET (Disability Equality Training) by completing a Disability

Awareness Quiz. The Disability Rights Commission 'Talk' video was shown to students throughout the day".

Following the success of the training, the school has booked a further four dates for DDSG to deliver training to First Year and Fifth year school students during February 2006.

Sandra MacKenzie, senior manager at the Thistle Foundation, said, "By providing this free training to community groups the Democracy Disability & Society Group intend to raise awareness of disability equality and the Disability Discrimination Act legislation. Craigmillar organizations will have gained a working knowledge of best practice in providing services to and working with disabled people towards their full inclusion in their communities".

To date, Bingham and District Older Peoples' Project, Caring in Craigmillar and Craigmillar Community Arts have received the training. Further sessions include Capacity Building Project; Hunters Hall Housing Co-op and Health Opportunities Trust. The training is also being provided to a group of Thistle Foundation volunteers who work with members of the public in the Thistle Foundation's healthy lifestyle management facility, garden café and garden project.

It is really good that I can share my experiences of disability to help others understand more about the issues which affect me as a person who has a disability. I hope now people in our community will get a sense of the barriers I face everyday just trying to live my life.

It's important that people can hear what I have to say about how people's attitudes have affected me as a disabled person, perhaps now some people will think more about how they talk or treat me in the future.

Raymond said, "The DDSG members have all worked hard in the past year to meet the challenge of providing this free training to Craigmillar organizations, the group has learned lots about presentations and how to get your message across.

"We all hope that everyone who has taken part in the training will have taken something away from the day with them and will use whatever they have learned from the training to help them make their services more inclusive to disabled people in the future".

For more information on the Democracy, Disability and Society Group contact Raymond Harland. Tel: 0131 656 9930.

CLAN Learners' Christmas Party

**Saturday 10 December
4.00 – 7.00pm**

South Side Community Centre
117 Nicolson Street
(opposite Tesco's)

This is another exciting opportunity to bring learners together from across the partnership!

Please support the event by talking about it with learners you work with. Replies should be returned to Lorraine at CLAN by Friday 2 December. For more details email: lorraine@clanedinburgh.org
Tel: 0131 270 6072.

Sat 10 Dec

GAMES

MUSIC

FOOD

DANCING

LEARNERS AND TUTORS can get online information about work and training through a huge collection of tools and links on the Careers Scotland's web site.

From the home page, choose the 'Services to People' option. Here you will find a downloadable introduction to using the site and you are asked whether you are an adult, young person or parent/carer. If you choose 'adult', you move to a page where you are asked whether you are considering changing jobs, not working, keen to learn, keen to start up a business, moving to the UK or about to become redundant.

From the home page, in the 'Service to People' section, you can enter 'Resource Centre', 'CV Builder' or 'Vacancies'. You have to register to use some tools but registration is free.

In the 'Resource Centre' choose 'Finding out about Careers and Jobs' and look under 'Know Your Options' to find the 'Careers Match' programme. This is similar to the 'Adult Directions' software some practitioners have used. It allows the user to explore thousands of jobs, test out which might be suitable and get information on average earnings, employer demand, qualifications, etc.

There are two ways to use 'Careers Match': by searching an occupational area you already have in mind or answering simple questions by clicking on dislike, does not matter, like very much, etc. The programme then generates a list of suggested jobs for you to look at.

From the 'Know Your Options' you will also find 'Occupational databases - useful websites' which offers many links including PLANIT Plus and a Channel 4 site.

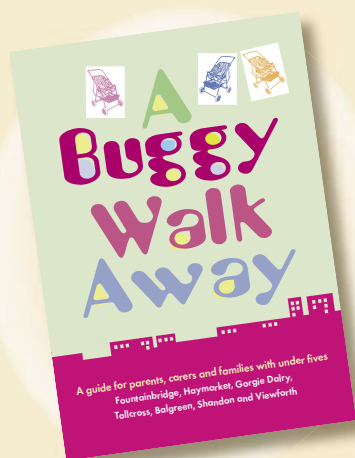
www.planitplus.net

In the 'Careers Zone' section of PLANIT Plus's colourful and attractive pages, you will find information on 26 broad careers areas, career support via activities (quizzes, games and assessments) to help you make a realistic choice, a 'Career Pointer' questionnaire and an A to Z list of job profiles.

www.channel4.com/life/microsites/B/brilliantcareers

The fun Channel 4 site is called 'Brilliant Careers' and it offers personality quizzes and a 'from the horse's mouth' section.

CLAN would like to thank Alison Womersley from Careers Scotland in Edinburgh for her advice.



● The Under 5s & Families Action Group of the Central Edinburgh Community Learning Plan have produced a guide for parents, carers and families with under fives living in Fountainbridge, Haymarket, Gorgie-Dalry, Tollcross, Balgreen, Shandon and Viewforth.

The premise of the booklet is that everything included is only 'a buggy walk away'. It was produced in response to local parents and carers who indicated that although there may be much provision for

under 5s locally, it is not always easy to find where and when things are happening.

The booklet was launched last month at Gorgie Memorial Hall. Around twenty local parents and carers came along with their buggies and enjoyed a free healthy breakfast supplied by the friendly Edinburgh Community Food Initiative staff.

A range of information stalls provided leaflets and advice and children's entertainer Tricky Ricky had us all singing along to 'Old MacDonald's Farm'. Everyone had a really good time and left with their own copy of the booklet.

Free copies can be picked up from:

- South Bridge Resource Centre, Infirmary Street (0131 556 2944)
- Health All Round, Springwell House, 26 Ardmillan Terrace (0131 537 7530)
- Fountainbridge Library, 137 Dundee Street (0131 529 5616).

What's it all about, ALFiE? The State of Adult Education in Edinburgh and Scotland

Free seminar organised by Adult Learners' Forum in Edinburgh on Saturday 3 December, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm at Leith Academy, Academy Park (bottom of Easter Road).

For more information and to book a place, please contact:

ALFiE, c/o 88 Turnhouse Road,
Edinburgh EH12 8ND. Tel: 0131 339 8475.
Email: alfieforum@hotmail.com
Website: www.alfieforum.edin.org

MORE BYTES

The next Beans will be out in January 2006. If you would like to contribute, send your items to Fiona Holmes, CLAN Edinburgh, 1-3 Canon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5HE.
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