



New Research Journal from National Drama May 29, 2009

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Kidspiration 3

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overview

Kidspiration 3 is a tool that allows teachers to construct interactive workspaces for children. It is designed primarily to enhance thinking, literacy, and mathematical skills, although it is flexible enough to be used across a range of contexts. It has tools that allow for visual representation of concepts to enhance comprehension and communication with pictures, words and numbers. Children can make sense of their learning as they can see and describe the processes involved in their thinking. They find the software easy to use, and remain engaged throughout tasks. Importantly, it is very easy to tailor workspaces to individual need so that children can have straightforward tasks aimed at specific learning intentions. This has a very positive effect upon progress.

Kidspiration contains sets of tools and graphics that teachers and children can combine in ways that meet their specific intention. Tools that enhance thinking skills enable links to be made between things in a 'mind-mapping' approach. The software is able to then extend these links to allow children to develop and explain them further by adding text, and can structure their thoughts into a writing frame. This approach proved to be an excellent way to develop planning for writing as children could link together causes and consequences and then use their plan as a framework for their extended writing. Therefore, the plan developed into an effective scaffold to support children.

The maths tools in the workspaces allow exploration of mathematical concepts in an effective graphical environment. There are opportunities to create exploration of number through place value, fractions, and shapes. This enables teachers to create tasks for children to further their understanding of a concept in ways that fit into wider schemes of work.

The software is accompanied by an extensive handbook that contains user-friendly tutorials that enable teachers to develop understanding of the programme's tools.

Product information on the supplier's site

Gallery

Images gallery

Publisher

TAG Learning Limited

Subject

Cross Curricular
English
Mathematics

Key Stage

Foundation / Reception
Key Stage 1 / P1 - P2
Key Stage 2 / P3 - P6

Product Code

48ZB-KIDSPIRATION3

Product Type

CD, Tools

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