

CREATIVE USE OF TABLETS IN SCHOOLS: MODULE 4

SECTION 4.2 (2)

I chose to work with a class of 13 pupils that are referred to as the ‘nurture’ class in our school – they require extra help in English and Maths. We worked on a history project about the Romans. I organized the group into three distinct subgroups according to their ability and in the ‘Dream’ Phase we talked creating presentations using the iPads but they could present them in any personalised way that they wished.

In the ‘Explore’ Phase we used books, we used the internet, we used resources that teachers had prepared for them from previous years and here you can see them putting into practice some of their learning by creating a Roman dining room. They had a lot of fun.

In the ‘Map’ Phase I chose to map out the project with pupils using mindmaps and storyboards. However, we did this on paper as I had found in the past that using the iPad sometimes slowed this process down.

In the ‘Make’ Phase, all team members had their own role within their small group of 3 or 4 pupils working on the particular topics of food, army and entertainment. The food group made an iMovie, the army group made a keynote whilst the final group working on entertainment used the app bookcreator.

‘So guys, how are we gonna share the information? Tell me what you gonna do.’

‘Well you go on the mail and then you type in the name who you want to send it to and then you click on the cross on the top and then you send it to the person’

‘Most Romans meals were centered corn, grain, oil and wine.’

I have had additional support in the classroom in the form of a learning support assistant who has helped with many of the aspects of helping the pupils to access the information and organise their thoughts.

I have used an app called ‘Showbie’ which is like a virtual learning environment that will allow me to share personalised feedback and resources with pupils, allow pupils to upload them for me to mark etc. I don’t know that I would have been able to do the work that I have done without a facility like this.

In the ‘Ask’ phase of the project, I was lucky enough to be able to have the head of Humanities to review the children’s work and then we were able to take them to Roman museum.

There was little to remake as the project deemed to be quite thorough. Pupils showed their work in the virtual environment of Showbie as other teachers are able to join my class and view the children’s work.



Data shows that the children achieved well in this project, having initially had levels of 3 and 4 they were now achieving 4 and 5. I can't say that this was entirely down to the iPad but it definitely gave them confidence and gave children with low literacy levels the ability to access work that previously would have been denied them would they have to have write everything down