

Learning Content

Contributed by Administrator

The 3 Cs!...Coaching, Communication, Collaboration...for Citizenship! Download a Global Hothousing & 2 Hour Example Lesson Plan Our focus is local and global communication and collaboration, both on-line and in Hothouse activities which provide wonderful opportunities to get practical experience as well as formal training in this skill development and as an exercise in citizenship. We now add a third (or fourth:-), and very powerful C: Coaching. This 'human touch' proves a hugely powerful engine to developing communication and collaboration skills. Coaching is an important part of BT Better world. Read on to see how we have incorporated BT Better world activities into a flexible process which combines the excitement of the Hothouse with formal coaching activities. There are three related aspects of Better world that we leverage: BT Better world provides learning and skills content and much more... BT Volunteers are trained to do and... Partners in Communication is an innovative quality development scheme for primary and secondary schools in the UK, created and managed by the BT Better World Campaign. It supports teachers and managers in practising and encouraging good communication – in the classroom, in day-to-day school life, and in engaging with their community. Crucially, it provides an invaluable, accredited support document for the OFSTED SEF folder! therefore a perfect vehicle for Partners in Communication, focussing as it does on communication and collaboration...for education and social inclusion...locally and globally. Hothousing A major feature contribution of BT, and other, experts. We now wish to build on this contribution as we move from the wonderful learning experience of Hothouse activity to injecting formal coaching interventions with fully trained BT volunteers. Right from start of our Hothousing work, students were highly impressed, in their words, with adults who 'listened to them and their ideas'. In the picture at the top of the page, students are working with BT expert Kennedy Cheng, currently based in Shanghai, on a design project. Working together - collaborating - has always been key, and here we see an activity from the recent Global Hothouse 'Joining the Dots' in which BT's Tim Parnell takes students through the same team building activity that BT software teams go through. Teams have to communicate and collaborate in the physical activity of building a complex pipe construction. Although a very professional coaching and inspiring activity for students and adults alike, this is not Tim's day job - he is a senior BT Manager. Alongside, BT volunteer Tony Houghton ran the BT Global Hothouse November 19th 2008 in the BT Centre: We have woven this in to a flexible activity which we can then tailor to a specific event/requirement /timescale. Read the process clockwise starting at '1 o'clock'...moving from the Outline planning options...to the Pre-work...to the Morning...then Afternoon session...to the Towards COP post-work which we hope will be an on-going commitment and contribution to the Community of Practice:

Here's a two hour starter in-house Hothouse lesson plan:

Hothouse Lesson Plan Example Overview This two hour activity will introduce key stage 3 students age 14-15 Hothousing presentation skills, communication and collaboration, coaching and thinking strategies as practiced by BT. 20 children will compete in four groups to address an important challenge! The activity is stand-alone but it is hoped that it will kick-off longer term collaboration with BT and partner schools globally via combined school Hothousing activities including the use of on-line technology such as WIKI, messaging forums and videoconferencing. Resources 10 not necessarily Internet access with project and sound. Children sitting around group tables with A4 and A1 paper and pencils. Preparation The BT facilitator will agree a challenge and educational objectives with the teacher. The challenge might be: Design and idea on how IT/communications can foster education and social inclusion locally and globally. Or it might be a more specific challenge important to the school e.g. Design a solution to communicate effectively with our partner school in Uganda! The children will start the challenge 'fresh' with a 'clean sheet of paper'. The winning 'Grow' prize is £20 for the partner school in Uganda. (A remarkable example of a 'Grow' prize is £100 won at a Hothouse which was used to…construct a school building! – rather than book tokens to an individual) Educational Curricular Objectives Knowledge: An understanding of how others live locally and globally Skills: Communication, collaboration and coaching skills Values: Becoming more informed citizens in a world where learning is very much two-way Citizenship: Developing skills of enquiry and communication Developing skills of participation and responsible action Literacy: Speaking and listening, Group discussion and interaction, Range of activities context and interaction Activity 1: Set the challenge! The children are put in their teams. The BT facilitator teacher will set the Hothouse challenge! How can we…Design a solution to communicate effectively with our partner school in Uganda! [A short discussion might start: Who knows about our partner school in Uganda? The children

might ask: Can we...? Could we...? To which the answer is...Yes] [The Internet is used to show some of our partner global schools including Uganda.] The outline activity agenda below is presented to the children as 'Very hard...but fun!' and they are told: We are judging you on: (1) Your idea – and how you present it! Presentation is SO important! (2) How you work with each other in your team...and with other teams! now have ten minutes to come up with an idea – and we wish you to present it in 60 seconds! Activity 2: Give four teams of five children 10 minutes to come up with an idea! The onus is on the children – the teacher and facilitator do NOT organise the team or contribute ideas - there will be initial uncertainty – but left alone – the team will come up with an idea(s). The role of the teacher and facilitator is to encourage 'working together' subtly making sure each team member is included and no-one is left out...gently reminding the team that it is being judged on both presentation and working together as a team. Activity 3: T+20 Present the idea in 60 seconds with no PowerPoint. Ask children to give feedback after each presentation (What was good...what could be improved?). The children will learn from their own and other teams' presentations. Activity 4: Coach the children on presentation skills and working together Build on the previous feedback and introduce ideas inspired by professional BT presentation and working together activities e.g. Presentation First tell us what you are going to talk about Then give us the detail – but not too much! Then finish with a summary and what we must do next! Working together People are different! That's good! Some people have the ideas...some people are quiet but have very good ideas...some people are good at organising...some people are good at detail...In the next activity, I want you to spend a few minutes deciding who does what... Activity 5: Give the four teams of five children 30 minutes to REFINE the idea! The role of the teacher and facilitator is to encourage 'working together' subtly making sure each team member is included and no-one is left out...gently reminding the team that it is being judged on both presentation and working together as a team. Activity 6: Present the idea in 60 seconds with no PowerPoint. Give iterative feedback from other children and adults Activity 7: Judgement time! Pick a winning team! Agree next steps Congratulations & Thanks! 2 minute time-out is taken for facilitator and teacher to confer...heightening the tension Feedback is given on all four presentations. Discussion takes place on how we might take things forward Finally...Judgement time! Pick a winning team! Prize For the future, we hope to engage further with our BT volunteers going into schools in the UK and also globally. Most recently, we have benefitted from leveraging the BT Better world expertise in delivering activities in schools including presentation skills, Belbin working together, and 'Six Hat's' problem solving. BT Volunteers are trained in delivery of these activities and we were lucky enough to have five of them at the November Hothouse.