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Appendix 1 PLUS Arts Enrichment Programmes

PLUS Arts Enrichment programmes are designed to provide engaging and creative projects for young people, aged 12-18, who have low levels of literacy and numeracy attainment. All programmes contain embedded literacy and numeracy activities and offer an opportunity for learners to demonstrate their understanding and application of the skills they are developing.

Digital music

This programme uses electronic keyboard and computer technology to engage young people in developing their own musical material. Music is a naturally engaging subject for this age group and digital technology provides a natural link to numeracy in particular, through musical beats and rhythm. If you have access to the technology required, this is an ideal opportunity to put it to good use.

Sounds good

Sounds Good gives learners the opportunity to become the virtual manager of a band. This is an engaging Pop Idol type of scenario, where learners can pick their own band. They then follow them through their career, making key decisions about all aspects of their lives from publicity and touring to CD production, merchandising, money matters and attending award ceremonies, ending with the production of a radio interview. Ideal for this age group and there is also an accompanying interactive

CD-ROM, which has some great activities and provides some useful tools for practitioners.

Drama

This is a programme of exercises which aim to develop dramatic ability, together with story-boarding skills. A group can work through the programme just for the development experience or can continue their activity to actually develop and perform a drama piece to an audience. Drama provides a natural vehicle for developing speaking and listening skills and team working ability.

Visual arts

An artistic and creative programme that introduces and develops themes of colour, shape and pattern and can culminate in the development of either mural tiles or a large-scale mural. There are some natural opportunities here for using skills in measures, shape and space and other areas of numeracy and the programme provides learners with a creative and engaging experience which they can apply in other settings.

Style yourself

This programme focuses on developing basic design skills using fashion areas such as bling jewellery, decorating clothes and designing footwear to engage learners. It offers an opportunity for lots of creative work and problem solving and was published in January 2005.

Poetry

A creative writing programme which leads learners towards appreciation as well as the writing of poetry. The practitioner resources are varied and include audio as well as written poems. The sessions look at different types of poetry, approaches and aspects of writing and guide the learners to start developing their own perspective and 'voice'.

Storytelling

This programme offers learners the chance to both listen to stories and to start developing their own. The approach to storytelling, basic storylines and the development of myths are explored through an active programme which encourages learners to become involved and to put their own stories down on paper or audio.

ViewPoint: digital photography

A programme that explores the development of photography to the digital era and leads learners through sessions focusing on the uses of photography and how they can use different effects to create their own style and to convey messages. The sessions look at using lighting, camera settings, portraiture, action shots, editing digital photos and many other areas. Outputs include creating documentary and news stories and exhibition work.

Circus skills

An active programme that looks at circuses particularly in terms of human skill development. The sessions focus on skills areas such as juggling, diabolo, poi, stilt walking and clowning. There is ample opportunity for learners to develop their literacy and numeracy skills while also developing new performance skills and general fitness.

Alphabets, letters and words

An exploration of the development and purpose of visual language and communication using creative activities such as printing and paper making. This programme then explores written communication through letter writing for different purposes and audiences, such as letters to family and friends, letters of complaint (stating your case effectively), understanding correspondence and with an emphasis on job applications.

For more information on the enrichment materials, please speak to your PLUS Development Adviser/PLUS Coordinator or contact:

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