Establishment name: Aughton Christ Church Primary School
Lancashire no. 08/020
Contact name: David Kennedy
Email: d.kennedy@aughtonchristchurch.lancs.sch.uk
Telephone no. 01695 421391
Award granted: Innovative Practice
Project title: 'Literacy book making project'

Project summary
Promoting writing though the creative curriculum, involving parents in their children's learning, developing links with experts and outside agencies to enhance experiences for the children and enthusing boys about writing are key focuses of our school. Our project involved us holding a joint parent/child workshop at the local art gallery for the (34) year 5 children. At this two hour workshop, they were shown different ways of creating a book, defined as a way of encasing and holding their work. All children were then given a differentiated brief to write a story, using their learnt narrative skills.

Through clear differentiation and individual targets, all children were challenged at their own level, especially GAT children who were given the brief of designing sub plots and flashbacks that would thread throughout their story. The chosen theme of 'Adventure in the Rainforest' linked into our wider curriculum and ensured motivation of the boys who thrived in the four week homework project.

Each child independently produced an outstanding story that, with parent support, is superbly presented in the form of a book. They currently form part of our class library and the children are enjoying reading each other's stories – real writing for purpose.

Specific aspect of practice to be accredited?
Raising standards of writing with boys and enhancing parent-child links.

Aspect of Every Child Matters addressed:
- Be healthy
- Make a positive contribution
- Enjoy and achieve

What were you hoping to achieve?
Enthused writing among boys and stronger parent child homework links.
## How did you identify the need for this practice?
Through assessment data monitored termly, boy's writing was looked at. Parental feedback was also received requesting the opportunity to become more involved in their child's learning.

## Briefly describe the main characteristics of the school?
Aughton Christ Church Primary School is a school of one form entry with currently 210 on roll. 90% of the school are white British with 20% on the SEN register.

## What did you do?
- The project has been developed over the 2011/12 academic year and is to be now carried into other year groups in the 2012/13 school year.

- During the autumn senior leadership team meeting, the school development plan was discussed, promoting boys' writing and developing parent homework links were highlighted. Workshops in literacy and numeracy were both held as part of addressing these issues, as was the idea of a project that the parents could become involved in.

- Ideas witnessed at a previous learning network conference, where children had learnt to create their own books, were then used as a starting point for the project. The Chapel Gallery in Ormskirk and a local artist were contacted to discuss the possibilities of the project.

- At the start of the Spring Term, governors were consulted on the concept of the book making project. Support was received.

- Meetings were held in February between the gallery, artist and deputy headteacher to organise the logistics of the event.

- The date of Tuesday 27\textsuperscript{th} March was set for the workshop.

- Children were given the brief on Wednesday 28\textsuperscript{th} March and four week window was provided for their work to be completed.

- Books were collected in and displayed during the last week of April.

- May saw a questionnaire go to parents to gauge impact from their point of view.

- During the May school visit, the school adviser viewed the project and offered his support for the application of an excellence award.

- May, June and July will see the children have the opportunity to read the 34 stories produced and write reviews on each others work!
### Which members of the establishment and/or wider community have been involved and what was their role?

- Artist – Angie Thompson - led and developed the workshop
- David Kennedy – Deputy Headteacher - led the project
- Barbara Stevens – Headteacher – supported the development of the project
- Danny Pentecost – School advisor – supported evaluation and recommended the project for excellence award.

### How has the progress of the project been monitored and evaluated?

- Through assessment of children's writing and data of writing levels after the project.
- Through parent questionnaires.
- Presentation at curriculum governors meeting.

### How has the practice been modified or improved during development?

The project was improved through the thorough consideration of provision for GAT children. This development of the project offered another stand that allowed them to be challenged and push their writing to new levels.

### What has been the impact of the project on pupils’ learning, achievement or enjoyment and how has this been measured?

Boys' attainment in writing based on APP is rising. The general enthusiasm for writing and also reading for enjoyment in the classroom is greater than ever and as a teacher is a joy to see.

### What are the next stages in the development process?

The project will now be developed and taken into other year groups. During the review of the SDP, it will be a priority to run similar style projects that link appropriately to each year group's curriculum.

### What aspects of this practice may be useful for other establishments to consider?

- Consider the chosen theme as this was key to getting pupils on board.
- Full explanations to parents of what the project is about and why it is being done. Parent support is crucial.