

The cLc Learning Platform is supporting teaching and improving learning outcomes in schools around the world. These Best Practice examples enable teachers to share experiences, ideas and recommendations to support and aid other teachers tackling the same challenges.

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School: Westbrook Old Hall Primary School	LA: Warrington
Teacher: Gina O'Rourke	Students: Year 3
Contact: gorourke@staffmail.co.uk	
Learning Focus: To encourage children to reflect on their learning to reinforce understanding.	
Curriculum Focus: Assessment for Learning	
Tools used:  Blog	



The screenshot displays the Year 3 blog interface. At the top, there is a banner with the school's name and motto. Below this, the page title is 'Year 3 Blog'. The main content area features a green banner with the text: 'Everyday in Year 3 is a very busy day. Add to our year group blog to let the rest of the school know what we have been up to! Miss Gavin & Miss O'Rourke'. Below this is a blog entry titled 'Eating plants' by Miss O'Rourke, dated 15 May 2009. The entry includes a photo of children in a classroom eating and a text description of a science lesson. The page also features a navigation menu on the left, a list of all blog entries on the right, and a control panel for group administration.

How this worked in practice: The children at Westbrook Old Hall Primary School are being encouraged to reflect back upon their learning to reinforce understanding of curriculum covered, and to identify where there are any gaps so that these can be supported in future lessons as part of the Assessment for Learning focus. To support this, the teachers in Year 3 have set up a joint blog in the Year 3 area with headings for each subject area and are encouraging children to add to the  blog with a record of what has been covered, achieved and understood in their lessons. This is a simple activity which is very effective for enabling children to consolidate their understanding and for teachers to identify what needs to be covered next.

By the end of this sequence of work children had developed skills in:

ICT: Word processing (blog entries)

Learning: Self Reflection / Assessment for Learning

Next Steps: Children could also begin to use a learning journal blog within their  eportfolio in order to identify the specific aspects of their learning in relation to the targets that they are working on, and can provide evidence through links, photos, podcasts and film within their  blog to support their self-assessment of targets being met.