

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: Thelwall Junior School | LA: Warrington |
| Teacher: Jamie Vermiglio | Students: Year 3, 4, 5 and 6. |
| Learning Focus: To learn how pyramids were built. | |
| Curriculum Focus: History – Ancient Egyptians | |
| Tools used:  Forum, Messaging Service, Homepage and 'Cover it Live' (embedded software) | |



How this worked in practice: During the January snow Thelwall Junior School was closed. Like all schools we endeavoured to use the Learning Platform as a means of communication and also to provide fun learning activities. After some research and recommendation we found a piece of software called 'Cover it Live'. This piece of software is similar to MSN as you can send and received instant messages; furthermore the software enables the uploading of images, videos and other resources. Once the Video is embedded onto a page on the Learning Platform it can be accessed by all pupils or a selection of pupils (depending on the security of the pages). A 'Live Lesson' using the above software was advertised to the children during the snow week by using the notice board that we use on our main learning platform screen. All children were asked to log onto the learning platform at 10:00am on the Friday morning from the comfort of their own homes. Once logged on, the children could see the embedded software and receive and send instant messages. There was in excess of 72 users logged onto the learning platform for this experience. The lesson started by asking children what they knew about the Ancient Egyptian Pyramids. They responded instantly with a range of knowledge. A video of how the pyramids were built (courtesy of you tube) was uploaded to the children's screen. They were asked to watch the video and then answer a variety of questions related to it. After this children were directed to an interesting website and then asked to feedback with interesting facts that they found about the pyramids. This followed by a general discussion about pyramids. Children were then required to continue their research using a variety a recommended sources and then write a report about how pyramids were built. They were asked to post this onto a designated discussion board by 2:00pm on the same day. At 2:00pm on the same day, all children logged back on, read the discussion posts and then provided feedback using the 'instant messaging' service – 'Cover it Live'.

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

Literacy: Discussion, writing reports

ICT: Researching using the internet, Sending & receiving messages, uploading videos, images and links.

History: Ancient Egypt-How pyramids were built

Next Steps: The school now intends to develop the idea of using Live Lessons in the event of future school closures. Children were so engaged in the Live Lessons that they actually want to complete another Live Lesson in half term! This really has been another avenue to engage children and promote learning.