

# Learning Bulletin

Issue 6

February 2009

In Brief-

*Let me do my work each day; and if the darkened hours of despair overcome me, may I not forget the strength that comforted me in the desolation of other times. May I still remember the bright hours that found me walking over the silent hills of my childhood, or dreaming on the margin of the quiet river, when a light glowed within me, and I promised my early God to have courage amid the tempests of the changing years. Spare me from bitterness and from the sharp passions of unguarded moments. May I not forget that poverty and riches are of the spirit. Though the world know me not, may my thoughts and actions be such as shall keep me friendly with myself. Lift my eyes from the earth, and let me not forget the uses of the stars.*

Max Ehrmann

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Most of us end up with no more than 5 or 6 people who remember us.

Teachers have thousands of people who remember them for the rest of their lives.”

Andy Rooney b.1919

## Next Month:

- Assertive Discipline
- Just Jargon 'G'
- Website of the month
- If students won't listen!

## ANGER MANAGEMENT

*An understanding of anger & its management can help teachers to deal with students and their own feelings of anger in certain situations.*

*Anger is a valid, healthy emotion, however, it can also be dangerous and destructive.*

**Rule 1 :** STOP, THINK, LOOK AT THE BIGGER PICTURE.

This rule is about time management. Time management is about creating time to think about the consequences between the event and the reaction.

**Rule 2:** DON'T TAKE IT PERSONALLY.

Nothing others do or say is because of you. What others do and say is a projection of their own reality onto yourself. When you are immune to the opinions, projections, behaviours and actions of others, you will be better equipped to deal with their anger.

## ACTIVE LEARNING

### WITH A TEXT BOOK:

The value of a text book is limited.

It may be written at a level that is difficult to access for a student who is not sure of the subject matter and it will not aid learning if not actively engaged with.

**Rather than just telling students to read a section of a text book try to:**

- Select students to read the text to the class.
- Enlarge a section to be read up to poster size and let the students use the poster to work from.
- Display the text to be read on a noticeboard as an information source area.
- Photocopy the text and cut it into pieces– students have to put text into the correct order.
- Photocopy the text, cut it up and give out one part each in class, students have to work out which order they go in to read it out.
- Photocopy the text and tippex out key words or phrases, students then have to complete the spaces.
- Provide differentiated versions of the text.

Website of the month:  
[www.care2.com](http://www.care2.com)

Care2 is an Environmental website that not only runs a very good e-mail service and AMAZING free e-mail postcards, but also if you log on each day and just 'click' you actually generate donations towards such causes as save the rainforest, sponsor a child, save the oceans etc:  
**If you click you get messages such as:**

'Your click just saved 7.4sq feet of marine wetlands'

or

'today your click supported 11,314.29 sq ft of tiger habitat'

**and it costs you nothing!**

The advertising sponsors pay.

Try to encourage students to log on and do their bit for the Earth!

## JUST JARGON

### F

**Foundation School** Generally, former grant-maintained schools. They retain powers over admissions, hiring and firing staff and own the land and buildings. Funding, however, comes from the local education authority which also pays for any building work.

**FSM** Free school meals

**FTE** Full-Time Equivalent This takes account of part-time students' attendance - a full-time student will count as 1.0 FTE.

**Foundation Stage** Education provided from 3 years old—to the end of Reception Year.

**Failing School** One designated by an Ofsted inspection team to be failing to give its pupils an acceptable standard of education.

**Fresh Start School** Found by inspectors to have failed so badly, and for so long, that the local authority running it has applied to the Secretary of State for Education to close it and reopen with a new name and many new staff on the same site.

"Since the brain cannot pay attention to everything . . .

Uninteresting, boring or emotionally flat lessons simply will not be remembered."

*Launa Ellison – What Does The Brain Have To Do With Learning? – Holistic Education Review 1991.*



### **The Reptilian Brain**



*This is the area of the brain responsible for primitive, instinctive, survival-orientated behaviours.*

*When an individual is under threat this area dominates and the areas of the brain responsible for thinking & memory switch off.*

**'a learner under threat is unable to think and learn**



**effectively'**



Similarly, in terms of behaviour management, threatening approaches prompt a similar uncontrolled response from students.

**DO YOU HAVE A WEBSITE OF THE MONTH?**

Then e-mail CLASSAID with your suggestion for the Learning Bulletin at:

[learning@classaid.net](mailto:learning@classaid.net)