

April 2009

Welcome to RED the Robot's® monthly newsletter



New ECaT resources being trialled!

New ECaT product to promote speaking and listening in settings

News this month

General Primary:

Statistics have shown that the Government's new 'catch up' Numeracy programme – 'Every Child Counts' has already accelerated children's Numeracy progression. In the first term of the new programme being trialled with Year 2 pupils, children have made an average of 12 months progress in just three months. The programme allows children who are falling behind in Numeracy to have an extra session for half an hour each day either independently or in a small group. The aim is that 30,000 children will benefit from the extra tuition every year. Every Child Counts is in its first year of a two year development phase before being rolled out nationally in 2010-2011.

A brand new ECaT resource by the team at Red the Robot® is being trialled this month with the help of a Local Authority. Every Child a Talker is a government fund that is used in particular areas of the UK to help younger children to develop vital speaking and listening skills before entering school. The new resource box was created to enable practitioners to set up speaking and listening opportunities, develop conversational skills and to allow children to talk and listen independently using puppets. The new resource box includes a child sized Red the Robot® hand puppet, a new child sized hand puppet character called Rosie the Robot, four beautifully illustrated and photographed sharing books about familiar experiences, a child friendly recording device, twenty A4 settings cards, common pictures and words flash cards and twenty 'word of the week' vocabulary flash cards taken from the books. The resource has a 'post-box' style lid to 'post' flash cards and word of the week cards. The new resource box will also include ideas on how to use the resource effectively. The resource will be trialled in a variety of settings throughout the Local Authority. A great deal of research has led the team to decide to introduce a new character to the Red the Robot family.

The development team says about Rosie; "...We wanted children to talk to each other without worry or anxiety, so we created a new character to be a friend to Red, someone who Red could talk to, explain things to, play and experience new things with. Rosie is a newer model of Robot and Red would need to explain to her how things worked...." The trial will continue for half a term.

Give children with EAL a head start!

A sensational headline hit the papers recently, reporting that one million children in our Primary and Secondary schools have English as an additional language. It may not come as a surprise for many teachers that teaching is increasingly difficult due to the language barrier. There are precious few quality resources to help children with learning English and minimal time on one to one basis. Why not try using Red the Robot®? You can set the level of differentiation for independent or one to one work with adults or a peer. Phase One is a good example as it allows children to hear simple questions and is mainly pictorial. At last! A quality resource for EAL!

HURRY! SPRING TERM OFFER ENDS SOON!

We will give you a FREE Red the Robot® every time you buy 4 packs of Letters and Sounds interactive cards. The 4 packs of Letters and Sounds cards can be made up of any combination of phase you require. Even better, there is no limit to the number of FREE robots you could receive!

Call or email Becky for further details.

Call us on 0845 600 1676 or email info@redtherobot.com

Have you seen our website? Take a look at www.redtherobot.com