

Reviews

Tried and tested programme assists with SPHE's 'Myself and the Wider World'

This publication, by Dr Bernie Collins, Lecturer in SPHE, St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, brings special focus to the 'Myself and the Wider World' SPHE curriculum strand. One of the key motivating factors which prompted the author to write the book was the fact that research had found that teachers favoured the 'Myself' and 'Myself and Others' strands in the curriculum to the detriment of the 'Myself and the Wider World' strand (NCCA, 2008; Inspectorate Studies, 2009). These findings are significant as engaging in the Wider World strand benefits children's social and emotional development as well as their ability to operate as a community and global citizen.

Hence this publication fills a crucial gap in that there are no Irish circle time

materials available to teachers. The book seeks to assist teachers in engaging with the 'Myself and the Wider World' strand. Classroom materials presented are practical, user friendly and are firmly grounded in the strand units outlined in the curriculum.

The layout is very structured for each class level with content objectives being addressed clearly identified. The content of each session presented includes: resources required, introduction, activity sheets and cross curricular links. The programme has been tried and tested as it has been piloted in many varied school types

throughout the country.

This can be recommended as a welcome and comprehensive publication and as a valuable resource containing many novel ideas to lean on when teaching the curriculum. There may, however, be too much content in each

session for a 30 minute SPHE lesson.

Available from Outside the Box (www.otb.ie/LOTG). Cost €29.95

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