

Simon
How to write a Scheme of Work

1. We will all probably have to write a SOW at some time this year.
2. The first and most obvious thing to do is to ensure you have read the text.
3. Then you must go through the framework for teaching and pick out the aspects of it you think you can include into the lessons.
4. The most important aspects are the objectives in **Bold**. These can probably be covered in every Scheme that you do within reason.
5. It is also necessary to make sure that it ties into the National Curriculum. However, I would have thought that this is mostly a formality as any text etc we are given will be linked closely with this.

3 Stages

1. The long term plan

- This gives an overview of all the units.
- It ensures the National Curriculum is covered.
- It also contains the strands of the National Literacy Strategies that will be incorporated.
- For the most part we will not have a large amount of input into this as it is more likely to be completed by the Head of Dept.

2. The medium Plan

- This identifies which objectives are grouped together from the National Literacy Scheme to be taught.
- It gives a brief overview of the sequence of lessons especially for longer tasks e.g. novels
- It also identifies the timing of the units¹.

3. The short term plan

¹ I do not as yet have a scanner else I would have put the hand outs that we were given in with the file.

- This is something that we are all familiar with now and is a standard lesson plan.

The task we were given during the session was to come up with a medium term plan for a Scheme on pictures and poetry. As a group we looked through the subject we were to teach. When we became familiar with it we were looked through the literacy framework picking out first the objectives in bold and then as many of the others that were relevant. We then clustered these together into smaller segments and came up with ideas for activities.

As a whole we came up with a plethora of ways to teach the same topic which was rather enlightening to see so much variety come from one topic.

Reflection

I was lucky to be part of an Inset day at Stroud where they put together a Medium term plan for Fireweed by Jill Patton Walsh. What they did was as they had already put together quite a few year 8 schemes they had already completed many of the tasks on the Literacy scheme. So they only had to pick from the remaining ones. Thus saving them some time, also as they had all taught the book many times before they all knew the text inside out.

As they went through the timing of the module they were also able to put together a basic scheme for each lesson.

Further Reading

The internet contains literally hundreds of sites that provide Schemes on every text that we will need to teach. The two I have used most are:

1. english-online.co.uk (you can subscribe to this but the freebee taster stuff is usually adequate)
2. teachit.co.uk (another subscription but at £10 a year it's worth it for the time it saves)

Aside from that there has been little literature that I have found that can tell you more than the hand outs do. The internet sites give you ideas and sometimes the whole thing. But we are all more than capable of creating our own ideas that are equally effective if not better. They just take a bit more time.