

Key Stage Three - ICT

Public Information Systems

Elements of this activity should be delivered before a visit to the Spinnaker Tower and concluded on your return, over a number of sessions if necessary.

Main Learning Outcomes:

To understand that information can be presented in different forms for different audiences and purposes.

To plan and present a Spinnaker Tower information package for a specific audience.

Resources Required

For this activity, you will need:

- Example photos of public information screens
- Access to ICT equipment, including the Internet
- Clipboards
- Planning sheets
- Photos of the harbour area from various viewpoints including Spinnaker Tower

Activity Outline

1. Begin by discussing the different ways in which information is presented to us, e.g. TV (people, graphics, footage), newspapers, Internet, Teletext, public information screens etc. Use the weather as an example if necessary.
2. Then introduce the idea of information screens being used in a variety of public places, such as shopping malls, bus stops, leisure complexes, education buildings etc. Ask children to suggest the type of information they might find on screens in different locations.
3. Now explain that they will need to think about developing a series of information screens for the Spinnaker Tower viewing decks. The current screens do not have the facility to change for different audiences or to show different types of information and it would be useful if new screens could do this.

National Curriculum Links:

ICT: 1a, 1b, 2a, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b

English: En 2 4c, 5b, 5d, 9a, 9b, 9c
En 3 1g, 1h, 2a, 9b



Key Stage Three - ICT

Public Information Systems (2)

Activity Outline continued:

4. It is important that children have a good understanding of the software they will be using for this task. It is recommended that children use Microsoft PowerPoint or similar. Children may need further instruction in using important, relevant functions within the program, such as hyperlinks and animations (See additional notes). A teacher demonstration of the software is advised in any case to consolidate children's knowledge.
5. Give children the design criteria for the new information screens - they should develop either a new screen system for younger children (5 - 10 year olds) or a series of themed screens, for example, subject specific screens such as local history, geography or environmental issues in the harbour.
6. Sort children into groups no large than 4 and ask them to work together to brainstorm ideas for the screens and to decide on a course of action for their creating their screens.
7. Next give them the planning sheets and ask them to firstly work out a screen layout - discuss consistency of font, use of logos and colours. Once again a teacher demonstration of this may be necessary to clarify children's understanding of this. A series of pre designed templates are included with PowerPoint and could be adapted for this project, although children's own designs would be more fitting.
8. Once they have decided on their master template for all screens, they should begin planning the content for each screen. There must be a minimum of 5 screens but no more than 10. Their planning should also take into account any research that they will need to undertake in order to fill their screens.

Differentiation:

Some children may require additional support or resources in some areas of this activity and this should be taken into consideration when preparing and delivering this lesson.



Key Stage Three - ICT

Public Information Systems (3)

Activity Outline continued:

9. Access to the Internet may be required for children to research content as well as access to books about the local area.
10. Once all screen content has been decided and collated sufficiently, groups should begin to piece together their presentation, which may include a flowchart style plan to show how the screens will be linked with one another and where the hyperlinks lead to.
11. Groups may also want to include their own photographs and video footage taken during a visit to the harbour and Spinnaker Tower. This should be downloaded and stored on a main server or on each individual pc.
12. Remind children to save their work at frequent intervals to ensure they do not lose anything.
13. Once presentations are complete, each group should present their production to one another and discuss the merits for each one.
14. Further feedback could also be sought from the audience these screens were designed and intended for, for example, take the presentations into local infant or junior schools and ask the children to comment.



Key Stage Three - ICT

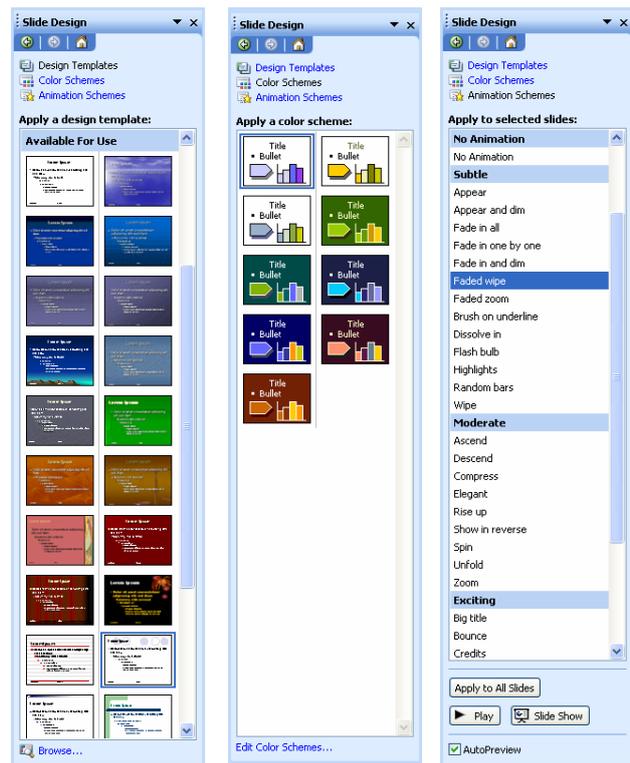
Public Information Systems - Additional Notes

Using Microsoft PowerPoint

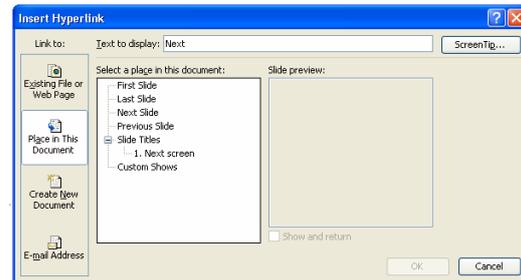
Show children how to design their own templates by creating their own backgrounds, headings, layouts etc.

Also show them how to animate the transitions between screens and how text appears on the screen.

Pre-designed schemes could be used to save time but ideally, children should be encouraged to design their own theme, particularly as they have to target a specific audience for this information and pre-designed templates may not be appropriate.



Inserting hyperlinks to move between screens and access different information is important. This is likely to require additional instruction as they may not have used this function before.



Key Stage Three - ICT Design Criteria - Ideas Sheet

Group:

Date:

Design Criteria

You have been asked to design a new Public Information system for use on viewing deck two at the Spinnaker Tower.

Your system must:

- Have at **least** 5 screens
- Have **no more** than 10 screens
- Be themed appropriately
- Be styled consistently throughout
- Appeal to a specific audience

You will need to plan this project thoroughly and evaluate it using a test audience.

Brainstorm ideas for the project

Audience? Theme? Content? Layout? Research?

Key Stage Three - ICT Planning Sheet (1) - Content & Audience

Group:

Date:

Planning the content

You must decide on the information you wish to share with your audience.

- You will need to carefully plan the information needed
- And decide who will be responsible for researching it

Our target audience will be:

Our main theme will be:

We need to find information about:

The person responsible is:

Now you must do your research so that you have enough content to use!

Key Stage Three - ICT Planning Sheet (2) - Themes/layout/colour scheme

Group:

Date:

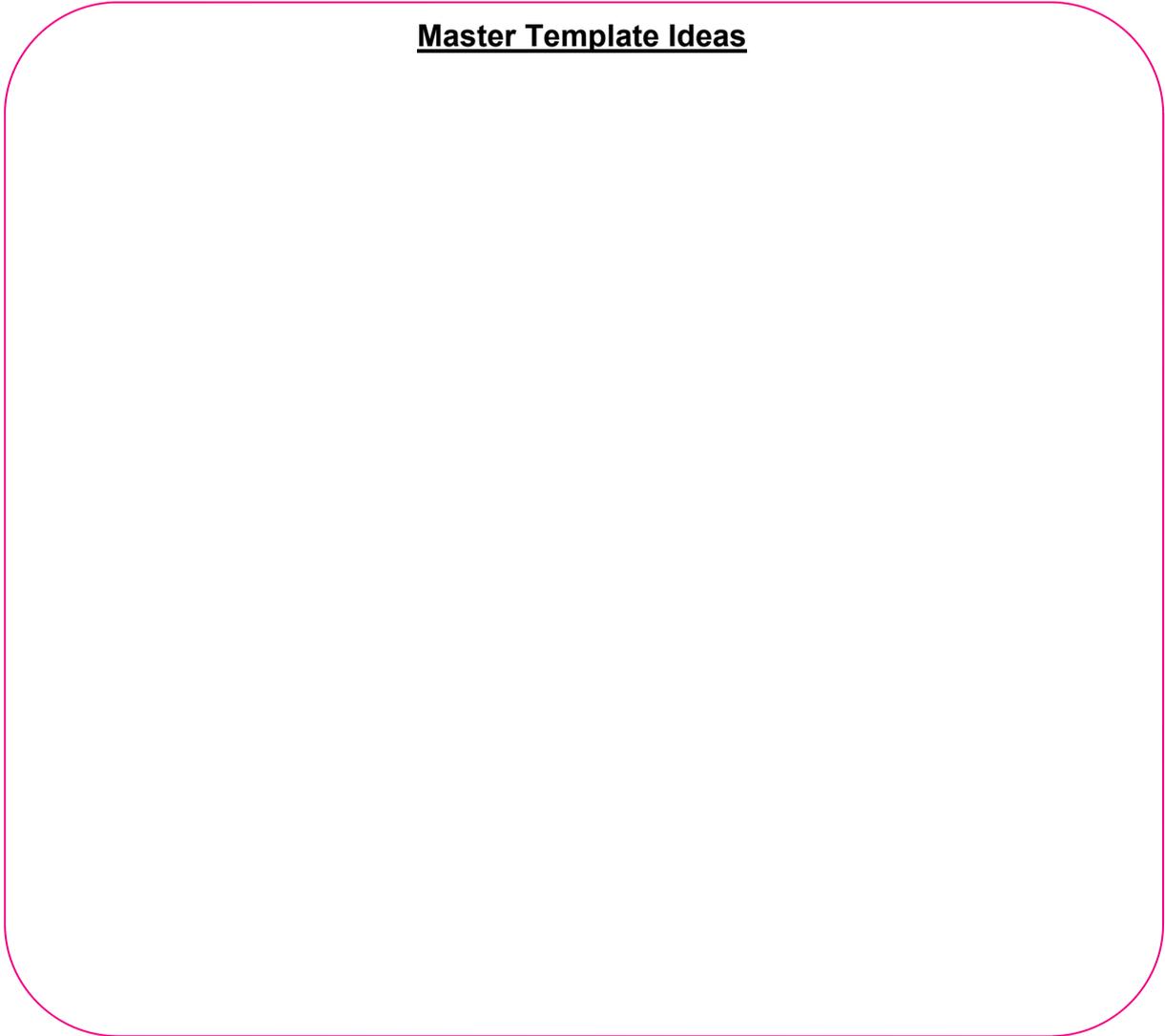
Screen theme ideas

Your information screens MUST follow a consistent layout or theme. Too many different colours and fonts will look too busy and poorly thought out.

Brainstorm some ideas for the themes including common strands that will be seen throughout, for example, a Spinnaker Tower logo in the corner of each screen.

Think about: the background
 A heading for each screen
 Logos

Master Template Ideas



Key Stage Three - ICT Planning Sheet (3) - Finalising content

Group:

Date:

Screen by screen

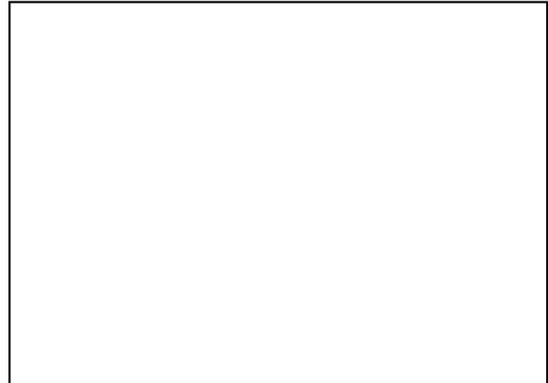
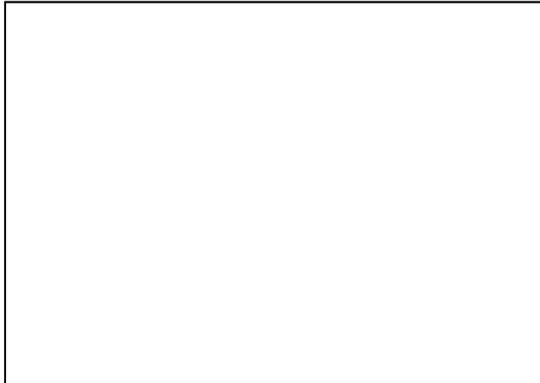
Now you have decided on your themes and completed your research you need to plan each screen before creating it for real. Make sure you have planned how each screen will link to one another and where your hyperlinks to different screens will be.

Key Stage Three - ICT Planning Sheet (4) - Finalising content continued

Group:

Date:

Screen by screen continued



Where are the links?

Now you are ready to begin creating your information system. Good Luck!