



## E-Safety Matters

The WMnet e-safety pack contains an A2 classroom poster, written for young learners; an e-safety self review matrix, brief guidance on school acceptable use policies for communications technologies and a CD-Rom of documentation. All local authorities have copies.



WMnet has created an e-safety web site to bring together key guidance, documents, contacts and teaching resources. All materials from the WMnet e-safety pack are also available on the site including the e-safety self review framework and e-safety pledge.

[www.wmnet.org.uk/go/esafety](http://www.wmnet.org.uk/go/esafety)

## Re-Purposing Digital Resources

WMnet is delighted to announce that eight of our sixteen secondary applicants for Becta support funds to re-purpose digital resources have been successful. The eight are:

- Pens Meadow School** - Dudley
- Thomas Alleyne's High School** - Staffordshire
- Leasowes Community College** - Dudley
- Joseph Leckie CTC** - Walsall
- Handsworth Grammar School** - Birmingham
- Harborne Hill Secondary School** - Birmingham
- Longton CLC** - Stoke
- King Charles I School** - Worcestershire



## Darfur using experiential learning

What does it like to be a refugee? Should the UN do anything to help? These are questions students taking part in a day simulation of the crisis in Darfur have been exploring.

The session uses a web-based resource and role play to help pupils empathise with villagers caught up in the humanitarian crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan. The emphasis of the learning is developing empathy and decision making skills, and the session can be used as an assessment for KS3 citizenship.

The materials have been developed by Bridges and Telford Learning Innovation Centre as part of a project funded by Oxfam. If you are interested in hosting or taking part in a session, please visit [www.taw.org.uk/lic/projects/bridges](http://www.taw.org.uk/lic/projects/bridges) or email [davina@shropshirebridges.org.uk](mailto:davina@shropshirebridges.org.uk)



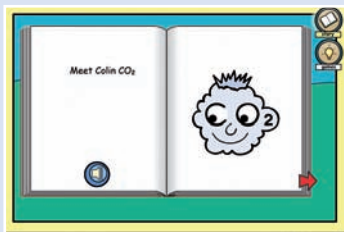
## New on the WMnet Portal

New primary Climate Change resources Eco Home. A fun way to model control of an Eco home, make decisions to cut energy costs and cut carbon emissions

[www.wmnet.org.uk/go/eco2home](http://www.wmnet.org.uk/go/eco2home)



All schools in the West Midlands can now access the first 5 lessons from Gigajam – an interactive music learning system. By visiting: [www.gigajam.wmnet.org.uk](http://www.gigajam.wmnet.org.uk) students can start to learn bass, guitar, keyboards or drums via this award winning system.



## Colin CO2

An interactive story and games to help children aged 4 - 8 understand climate change.

[www.wmnet.org.uk/go/colin](http://www.wmnet.org.uk/go/colin)

## Learning platforms (VLE) adoption questionnaire

WMnet has developed an online questionnaire to provide information on how schools are progressing with learning platforms. This information will be used to help develop and improve support and guidance on learning platforms provided to schools by local authorities, WMnet and national bodies such as Becta. The questionnaire should take no more than 5-10 minutes to complete.

[www.wmnet.org.uk/go/LPquestionnaire](http://www.wmnet.org.uk/go/LPquestionnaire)



## National Digital Resource Bank

Partners in North West Learning Grid have made available the first tranche of free resources ready packaged for use in learning platforms. Subjects addressed include RE, D&T, Science History Geography, citizenship, English, French and Functional skills. Definitely worth a look before you buy commercial equivalents.

NDRB also provides a channel for free resource sharing for schools with resources they would like to see used more widely.

## JISC Collections



The Universities' Joint Information Systems Committee is extending the contracts for access to a number of digital archives and collections from its

traditional higher and further education clients to all UK schools. Schools will be able to benefit from substantially discounted prices on access to the following archives:

- Hulton Getty Education Image Gallery
- Guardian/Observer Archive
- Times Archive (Cengage)
- Oxford Reference online (5 archives)
- Keesings World Archive
- Science Resource Centre
- History Study Centre (Proquest)

Given their higher education lineage, it is likely that these collections will be of most interest to secondary schools. Free trial accounts are available at [www.jcs.nen.gov.uk](http://www.jcs.nen.gov.uk)

## A warm welcome to...

... Stephanie Davies, who will now work full time for WMnet adding e-safety and self-review support to her portal editing responsibilities.