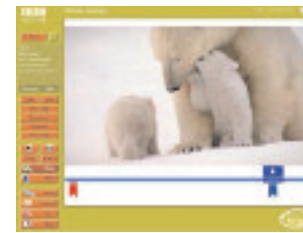


# Digital resources

**schoolzone**  
educational intelligence

## Climate Change and key topics in the news

**BBC Active**  
**Geography**  
**Key Stage 2**



BBC Whiteboard Active Climate Change software is designed to give pupils at Key Stage 2, with children aged 7-11, a better understanding of some of the key environmental issues in the news. The software allows pupils to interact with issues via high-quality BBC video extracts, drag-and-drop activities and a range of ideas for follow-up tasks. While the software comes with a teacher's pack full of QCA links and national-curriculum references, for schools looking for innovative ways of teaching geography and science, this could be a great tool. One of its strengths is the way BBC news clips are catalogued and can be used via the whiteboard to assist whole school teaching.



**Audio revision with text and images for your iPod**

**GCSEPod**  
**Soundbitelearning UK Ltd**  
**All subjects**  
**Key Stage 4**

GCSEPod is a series of expertly created enhanced podcasts designed to help students with GCSE revision for mocks, exams and

coursework. There are flexible resources to meet the individual child's needs and those of their parent. They also aim to provide a high-quality range of revision techniques and learning materials forming a platform on which the user can construct revision programmes. The podcasts contain ideas for approaches to the statutory knowledge, skills and understanding of a range of subjects delivered in a way that will engage and motivate pupils. These approaches draw on the techniques of active learning and pupil investigations to involve pupils in their own learning. Students are encouraged to navigate around the website and engage with the extra support material - the RSS feeds, the GCSE blogs and the recommended additional website material.

## Word Shark 4

**White Space Ltd**  
**English**  
**All ages**



Wordshark uses sound, graphics and text in a multi-sensory approach to practise word recognition and spelling. These skills are taught through 55 games, covering over 9,000 words and sounds - including all the word lists for key stages 1, 2 and 3. The program also allows for the addition of words not on the lists: these can be typed in and the sounds or words added. The word lists are used in isolation or contextually in sentences and puzzles. The program is aimed at students of all abilities and ages, including adults who have English as a second language. The games help develop a range of skills including segmenting and blending skills for phonics, onset and rime, homophones, spelling rules, common letter patterns, prefixes, suffixes, roots, word division, alphabet and dictionary skills.



**Find Out About: Science Age 5-7**  
**BBC Active**  
**Science**  
**Key Stage 1**

Find Out About: Science is a resource for covering all of Science in KS1 and is directly linked to the QCA topics. It uses the best of BBC

television alongside photographs, audio and games, to provide an exciting interactive experience for children. Searches can either be completed for key words or for specific objectives. Within that, the type of file can be specified - be it a video, animation or interactive activity - to name a few. Each activity is supported by ideas for classroom use. Each page can be fully interacted with various features from the toolbars. Text and other features can be added. Parts of the pictures can be covered up and revealed when wanted. These can be labelled: for example, speech and thinking bubbles can be used. These pages can then be saved for use later or printed. In addition to all of the activities, resources and pages already available in the program, there is great scope to be able to design and make individualised pages and activities, using the resources provided.

These reviews are supplied by **Schoolzone**, an independent body that asks teachers to evaluate digital learning titles

## Connecting Science Year 7 Dynamic Learning Network CD-ROM

**Hodder Education**  
**Science**  
**Key Stage 3**



Connecting Science, which is part of Hodder's Dynamic Learning series, is a teacher-focused resource that delivers the Year 7 Science national curriculum and is easy for learners to use. The content is in the spirit of the new approach, which emphasises how science works and encourages enquiry-based learning. The PLTS (Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills) framework is also well supported. Teachers' guides that provide a wide range of options are often hard to follow and navigate; with this software, planning is a breeze. Teachers can search through a wide range of resources by keyword, topic and resource type. By dragging and dropping the material into the lesson builder and also adding their own or other existing material, they can produce a customised scheme of work that is suited to the pupils they are teaching.

## AS Chemistry LabSkills

**Learning Science Ltd**  
**Chemistry**  
**AS-level**



The package delivers, through a clear interface, examples and techniques for use within the AS Chemistry Lab. Each element of the techniques section has textual detail, often with interaction, short videos demonstrating the technique, a section on safety with respect to that technique, several simulations and an assessment or testing element. The main window has four drop-down menus which are the periodic table, reagent glossary, equipment glossary, and health and safety. For a one-off payment of £499, the package can be used on the school network. Students can also access the materials at home.

## iPoster: Evacuees

**BBC Active**  
**History**  
**Key Stage 2**



This is an enjoyable and educational introductory tool for Key Stage 2 students of history focusing on evacuees in the Second World War. The software largely uses archive material in the form of films and still photographs. It also includes modern interviews. These introduce the student to why the Second World War broke out, why and how children were evacuated, and what it felt like to be an evacuee. The software is completed with a modern evacuation analogy. It is easy to use and clear to navigate, and is visually appealing with good use of archive material. It will save teachers time through not having to compile their own photograph and video database.

## Numbershark 4

**White Space Ltd**  
**Numeracy**  
**Key Stages 1 - 3**



Numbershark 4 from White Space is a program for anyone who needs to improve their mathematical skills and understanding. Its strengths are the levels of interest it engenders in learners and the monitoring features for school use. It covers basic numeracy skills, allowing revision and practice in a fun way that encourages pupils to learn, often without realising they are doing maths. It has a comprehensive section of games and a topic screen showing over 500 topics. The software features 45 games covering the four number operations in meaningful ways that will develop pupil understanding. Records can be kept of pupils' progress, and reports can be produced to give specific details of successful learning and further support needed. Worksheets can be printed to reinforce activities following a session of work.

## Fuse Creator

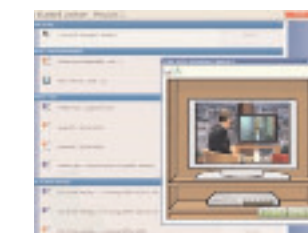
**Lighthouse Education**  
**Cross curricular**  
**All ages**



Fuse Creator is an authoring program which allows teachers and pupils quickly and easily to create interactive teacher-to-pupil, peer-to-peer or whole-class teaching activities, such as drag-and-drop, ordering and fill-the-gap. Fuse Creator allows for activities to be made to suit any ability level, across different age groups (KS1 - KS4) and across different areas of the curriculum. The software is designed to be very simple to use, making it extremely suitable for teachers with little technical expertise, especially those who are reluctant to engage with technology. A superb online resource also exists in the Fuse Creator Community ([www.fusecreator.co.uk](http://www.fusecreator.co.uk)) where other users share their expertise and their creations, plus it is a simple matter to export any activity as a SCORM package for use through VLEs or as a standalone file that allows playback on the internet.

## ICT InterACT for Key Stage 3: Network DVD-ROM 1

**Hodder Education**  
**ICT**  
**Key Stage 3**



ICT InterACT is an intuitive and well-presented resource for teaching ICT via presentation or interaction to whole classes or groups. A clear and easily navigated interface offers many opportunities to deliver personalised learning. The Dynamic Learning engine has many tools to support the interactive delivery of the ICT content. In this title, the first of the ICT series, there are six modules that follow the revised curriculum programme of study. The interface allows the pages of the textbook to become interactive by allowing the user to zoom into passages of text and highlight important points, into images to display key features, and to display animated case studies that exemplify the learning objectives. A range of tools aids the delivery, including the ability to add sticky notes to the screen, freehand writing or text boxes, to add information or students' questions to the screen.

## Further Information

■ All evaluations are written by experienced practising teachers who have used these resources in their classroom.  
■ Schoolzone is an independent research organisation, and will not benefit from the sales of any of the products reviewed above.  
■ If you are a teacher and are interested in reading the full evaluations of these resources, or would like to read evaluations

of one of the other hundreds of products evaluated by Schoolzone-trained evaluators, please go to [www.schoolzone.co.uk](http://www.schoolzone.co.uk) for more information.  
■ By registering to join our online community of more than 50,000, you may be invited to take part in educational research while being paid for your expertise.

■ Schoolzone's independent product evaluations are freely accessed by our 750,000 monthly visitors, providing excellent exposure to teachers who are looking for new resources.  
■ If you would like Schoolzone to evaluate one of your resources, please contact Elizabeth Collie on 01242 262906 or email [elizabeth@schoolzone.co.uk](mailto:elizabeth@schoolzone.co.uk)