

**Aims**

1. To prepare and write non chronological reports.
2. To use a range of sources to locate relevant information.

**Resources**

- ❖ Weblink: <http://kotn.ntu.ac.uk/dragonsville/rock.htm>
- ❖ Activity sheets:  
Researching information.

**Introduction**

This is an activity that will ask children to prepare a piece of writing that will provide information on a particular subject. They will be asked to undertake research about the subject, using a range of sources.

**Activities and points for discussion**

- ❖ Look at other examples of non-chronological information writing. What is the purpose of the writing? Does it describe the way things are?
- ❖ How does the writing begin? Does it have an opening statement that explains what is being written about?
- ❖ What tense is used? Would it sound right if it were written in the past tense? What would this imply?
- ❖ Read through the information and see whether the subject being written about is described in detail.
- ❖ Discuss how the different sections of the writing are presented. How can you easily find a particular section of the writing?
- ❖ What technique can be used to read through all the writing quickly, when looking for a particular piece of information. Discuss skimming texts. Why is this useful when having to look through large books?
- ❖ Look at published information writing. Apart from the text, how else is information presented? Is this effective? Why?
- ❖ Look through an information book. Where did the author research the information? What has the author done to explain where the information was gathered?
- ❖ Select a topic that would be appropriate for the Rock of Knowledge area of Dragonsville and prepare an information report. Submit it using the web form on the website. (<http://kotn.ntu.ac.uk/dragonsville/rockform.htm>).

**Follow Up**

- ❖ Display some of the information writing produced on OHP in class. Discuss whether the work contains the features of information writing that was previously discussed. Can improvements be made to it?
- ❖ Create information writing for other areas of the curriculum.
- ❖ A class 'book of mythical creatures' could be created containing information about many types of creature.
- ❖ All types of information writing can be sent to Kids on the Net for inclusion on the site. (<http://kotn.ntu.ac.uk/about/write.htm>)