LESSON PLAN 1: Introduction to ESB SCIENCE BLAST

RESOURCES AVAILABLE: PowerPoint 1 & Worksheet 1

Classroom Time: 20-30 mins | Date:

Subject: SESE | Strand: | Class

Scientific Skills: QUESTIONING, EXPLORING

Learning Objectives	Learning Activities	Resources
Learn how science makes a valuable contribution to our daily lives.	**Brain-Storming Session (5-10 mins)** Orientate the class using slide 1 of PowerPoint 1 on your whiteboard. Brainstorm with the class: **"Why is SCIENCE so important to us? How does it help us?"** Use the visual and written clues on the PowerPoint to stimulate discussion and record additional ideas. **Discussion:** In conclusion emphasize the message that **SCIENCE is an important way of understanding how the world works. Scientific understanding is special because it can be tested and challenged by everybody. The starting point for all science is being curious and ASKING QUESTIONS...**	Slide 1 PowerPoint
Learn about the aims and objectives of ESB SCIENCE BLAST	**Introduce ESB SCIENCE BLAST to the class (10 mins)** Use the artwork and **video links** on slide 2 of the PowerPoint to introduce how the ESB SCIENCE BLAST programme has operated in previous years. Describe the challenge: **To create a whole class science investigation based on ANY question we choose !** Options: You may choose to restrict your class to an area of investigation. Eg. a theme related to recent class work or connected to your local area.	Slide 2 PowerPoint
Learn that it is important to think about HOW a question could be answered	**Brainstorming (5-10 mins)** Emphasize to the class that when proposing a possible question you need to think if there are any activities that might help to find an answer. Maybe an experiment/something to build, or a questionnaire/survey? Organize your class into brainstorming groups of 4-6. Ask them to discuss any initial ideas they might have. (Do not expect ideas and plans to be anything other than embryonic. This is just to create sparks of inspiration).	Slide 3 PowerPoint  Step 1
Learn the value of collaborative thinking	**Enlist help from family/friends (Homework)** Give each child **Worksheet 1** and ask them to discuss ideas at home. Record their ideas on worksheet 1 or an appropriate alternative (eg. video)	Worksheet 1
	Risk Assessment and Prioritization: Read all of the returned proposals and make a short list of 3 of the best suggestions in preparation for the next lesson. It's important to eliminate questions that have little potential for realizable activities or are inherently unsafe. Don't expect ideas for activities to be fully developed. That is for the next stage...	