

BLT

Big book of Literacies Training: a resource bank for supporting young people with their literacies

Introduction

What is the BLT?

BLT is a resource bank of materials, developed by practitioners who have been involved with literacies work with young people. A small group of practitioners volunteered to collate 'tried and tested' material to build a resource for staff who are interested in creating awareness as well as supporting and developing literacies with young people.

The BLT resource bank contains a mixture of original ideas and materials taken from other sources. It is not a prescriptive course, but a bank of materials designed for you to adapt to suit your own context.

The group has been supported by Learning Connections and YouthLink Scotland and the final resource bank will feature on both Adult Literacies Online and YouthLink Scotland's websites:

<http://www.youthlinkscotland.org>

<http://www.aloscotland.com>

Why BLT has been created?

The resource bank has been created in response to a number of requests for materials to undertake training with a variety of audiences including youth workers, adult literacies workers and front line staff who link with young people.

The need for training has also been raised in a number of research reports including 'Youth Literacies Practice in Scotland an initial exploration' and YouthLink Scotland's 'To the Max'.

'The potential for development of youth literacies within the range of Scottish youth work providers is significant but is predicated on:

- *the requirement to undertake promotional activity to raise awareness of youth literacies practice among youth work providers and to encourage literacies programme development within existing youth work organisations*
- *the development of a literacies toolkit for youth work to inform youth work practice by providing guidance on literacies practice*
- *the provision of training workshops on youth literacies for both youth work practitioners and adult literacies practitioners that has as its focus the development of integrated youth literacies practices'*

(Youth Literacies Practice in Scotland an initial enquiry 2004)

The 'To the Max' report outlined that there was a need to:
'further develop appropriate training opportunities within the youth work sector.' (To the Max - YouthLink Scotland 2006)

How to use BLT

In order to cater for a number of different potential audiences, the training has been developed in four sections:

- 1. Awareness of Literacies with Young People**
- 2. Supporting Young People with Literacies**
- 3. Developing Young People's Literacies**
- 4. Additional Materials and Resources**

The BLT resource bank has been created not to replace, but to complement any existing training. In order to deliver training on literacies support to young people, you will need to have some experience and knowledge of the literacies landscape and /or delivery. How you use these materials is your choice, but try to be creative, vary methods and above all be flexible. Try to think about age appropriate materials and linking to subjects that have relevance to young people. The pack includes top tips and discussion points within some of the exercises and hopefully these will assist you.

ESOL practitioners may also find some of the resources useful for working with young people whose first language is not English.

Materials featured in this resource bank have been collected by the following practitioners:

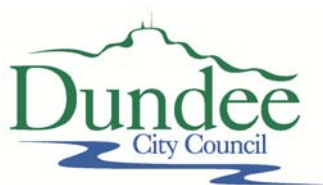
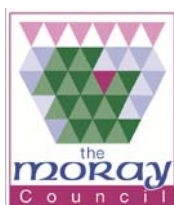
Alison Mann	Development Worker ABE - West Lothian Council
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Supported by

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Material for BLT has been provided by a number of other practitioners and organisations, and their contribution is also greatly appreciated. Every effort has been made to acknowledge sources and provide information on where to find additional information.

If you have found this a useful resource, please let us know how you have used it by feeding back to us by [using this survey](#).

Top Tip:

This pack has been produced in an accessible font and character size. If you do not require this and are printing this off, it may be useful to set the option to print double sided and two to a page. This will save on paper, but will still be a readable size.