

TEP Training Programme - INSET

Inservice courses focus on a range of TEP resources and take place in schools and curriculum centres. So far this year over 3500 teachers from both TEP and non- TEP schools have attended training in a range of technology disciplines.

TEP courses are available across the UK and provide an excellent opportunity to acquire new ideas, materials and resources. Most courses enable teachers to take courseware materials and exemplars back into school.

Most courses are one-day presentations and workshops with an emphasis on 'hands on' activity and the opportunity to explore and share good practice.

TEP provides teachers with the solutions and ideas they want, that work back in the classroom and provide low cost reliable activities that are directly linked to national curriculum objectives.

The most popular courses last year were based on Pro/DESKTOP CAD/CAM activity with an increasing emphasis on making. Watch out for future TEP CAD/CAM courses that provide routes through manufacture.

Schools are now switching on to the potential of Smart materials and Smart products and the wider impact their use can have on pupil projects.

The trend towards use of PIC Chips in pupil projects is a growing one, as departments recognise the advantages of adopting a PIC based strategy for developing high quality, reliable electronic products and



TEP Electronics INSET at Middlesex University

systems and control projects. The TEP Chip factory is a versatile, low cost route for teaching PIC chip technology at the top of Key stage 3 and on to Key stage 5. Chip factory courses are one-day introductory courses looking at programming and applications and developing project ideas for PIC's. A range of Chip factory programmes feature on the TEP website.

With the growth in interest in Robotics and Animatronics as a result of Robot Wars and Technogames, an increasing number of TEP courses are based on a robotics theme. Designing and building robots is easy using the new TEP 'clunk click' motor/gearbox assembly and a variety of cams, gears and linkages driven via PICs, Smartcard or the IQ board.

TEP development centres offer access of a different kind for teachers. Securing suitable supply for staff to get out of school is increasingly difficult. Development

centres are regionally located and provide twilight and after school INSET and activities based on all aspects of TEP resources and materials. TEP also supports the work of Fellowship centres located around the UK. Wolverhampton University's Centre for Design and Technology Education (CDATE) runs update sessions and summer school activities based on TEP resources.

TEP INSET is available through LEA's or direct from TEP. Schools that are already TEP members get a reduction on course fees and a discount on resources too. Raising the standard of work done in D&T and creating a modern image of the subject is easier with the right resources, courseware, hardware and software that TEP offers. Many LEAs recognise the value of regionally based technology INSET and have put in place a rolling programme of TEP led activities.

What they say about TEP INSET:

- "Exposure to new ideas"
- "Excellent as usual"
- "We are going to rethink our Keystage 3"
- "Hands on opportunity"
- "Great resources"
- "A value added approach for my department"
- "This stuff's exciting and cool for kids"

For details of training dates and venues visit the TEP website. If the course you want in your area is not available please contact us.