



## Storytime

The idea of having a box full of stimulating and creative artefacts, information sheets, cards and posters is not a new one – but few company's have produced such a comprehensive resource as *The Storymaker's Chest* from Philip & Tacey. This product offers a wealth of materials including two posters depicting narrative pattern and story making ingredients; cards (to help with character setting and plot); wheels to aid characterisation; games and the Curiosity Sack that contains objects that could be used to inspire a story. As if this range of resources was not enough, the chest also contains a Teacher's Guide that is the distillation of the author's many, many years of teaching experience. The Teacher's Guide is packed full of tried and tested ideas that will work in the classroom. All-in-all, this is a truly remarkable resource that any teacher looking for creative inspiration should invest in. If you want more information on this product, then you can visit the company's website at [www.philipandtacey.co.uk](http://www.philipandtacey.co.uk)



## The weather experts



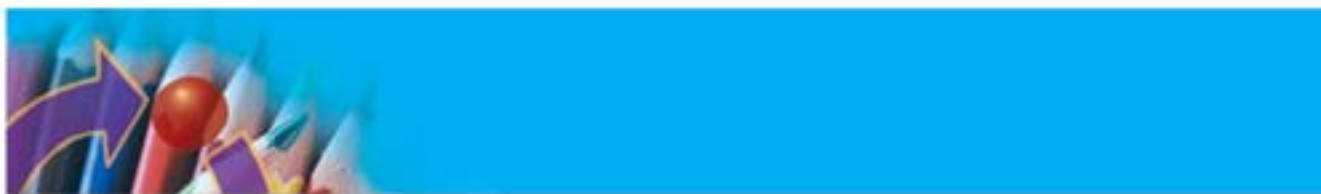
Skyview Systems Ltd is a well-known supplier in the meteorology field. They have been experts in weather-monitoring equipment for the last 15 years and supply a wide range of products. After conducting research to identify the particular needs of primary schools, the company now offers a comprehensive range of products to support the teaching of weather in schools, and with tight budgets in mind, they are giving an additional five per cent discount to all orders from schools. The company's range includes various hand-held instruments for use outdoors (such as simple wind meters) right through to full-featured weather stations. For more information on Skyview's range of weather products, you can contact Roanna Deeks on 01787 883138 or visit their website at [www.skyview.co.uk](http://www.skyview.co.uk)

The company also offers another website located at [www.skylinkweather.com](http://www.skylinkweather.com). This site not only includes information on the company's product range, but also offers current UK and world weather information. Features include a weather map, historical graphs and superb satellite images. There is even a facility to download raw data to a spreadsheet. Moreover, by visiting Sky View's website you could win an Xplorer 1 Handheld Anemometer worth £29.95 by just entering your details into the emailing list.

## School weather stations

WeatherHawk™ is a curriculum-based, interactive data acquisition teaching tool that is easily installed and can be used by school staff, or the students themselves. With its integral weather datalogger, this tool will collect, store and transmit data to a classroom-located host computer; or even the school's network server, where all classes can view and analyse it at an age-appropriate level. Students are involved with the learning process when they monitor real-time changes in the weather and experience collecting and analysing it themselves. There are never any on-going fees associated with the ownership and use of a WeatherHawk weather station. WeatherHawk also offers a unique software license feature (PC-Windows or Mac OS X) linked to your WeatherHawk, not the host computer; so you can install WeatherHawk software on every computer in the school network to enable every classroom to share data from a single WeatherHawk weather station without requiring an expensive site license, or separate single user licenses for each classroom computer. If you would like more information on this product you can visit [www.weatherhawk.co.uk](http://www.weatherhawk.co.uk)





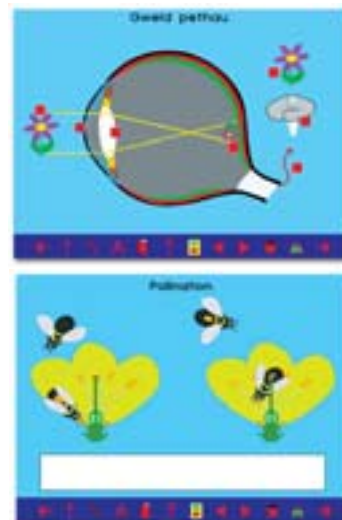
## Clicsoft science collections

ClicSoft produces two science collections for primary schools in *My World* and *Textease* format, all of which are available in English or Welsh. Both the packs provide great hands-on science activities, many of which may lead to related practical work in the classroom. The adaptable nature of the screens, plus the editing facilities of these two programs allows the screens to be modified, thus the number of potential screens that may be created from these two packs is only limited by the imagination of the pupil or teacher!

**Starting science** – with over 70 screens, this incorporates the Key Stage 1 ClicSoft science titles: *Life Processes and Living Things*; *Physical Processes*; and *Homes and Houses*. This adaptable resource features colourful child-friendly screens with lots of pictures and speech support, yet maintains a high curricular content with activities ranging from life processes, humans and other animals, green plants as organisms, living things in their environment, grouping materials, changing materials, electricity, forces and motion, light and sound to the Earth and beyond.



**More science** – with over 200 screens, this incorporates the Key Stage 2 science titles: *Electricity and Power*; *Forces and Motion*; *Green Plants as Organisms*; *Humans as Organisms*; *Light, Sound & the Earth and Beyond*, *Living Things in their Environment* and *Materials and their Properties*, covering most of the National Curriculum requirements for this age group. Ideal for introducing new topics, the apparent simplicity of the screens belies the fact that each has buttons to access further information, labels, pictures and support enabling children to work at their own pace and provide teachers with assessment opportunities that provide differentiation by outcome. For more information you can visit [www.clicsoft.co.uk](http://www.clicsoft.co.uk)



## Super science

Professors at Middlesex University have linked up with the toy company **Great Gizmos** to make science fun with a new range of teaching resources. They have designed six new science kits to teach eight-year-olds and up scientific concepts in a fun, hands-on way. The *Electric Dragster*, *Electric Bug*, *Electric Cannon* and *Mud Clock* enable pupils to make scientific discoveries using everyday objects. Starting from £9.99, these comprehensive kits include all the materials needed plus detailed instructions and fun facts. For more information on the complete range of science kits from Great Gizmos you can call them on 01293 543221 or visit their website at [www.greatgizmos.co.uk](http://www.greatgizmos.co.uk)



## Secret Solvers

Michael Omara Books has produced a fantastic range of books designed to encourage the teaching and learning of basic mathematics. The range includes books on dividing, adding, times tables, subtracting and measuring and all support Key Stage 1. The idea behind each book is simple – the pupils have to work out mathematical questions (such as  $6 \times 3$ ). However, what makes this series so special is that the pupils can then check their answers by using a 'secret solver' magnifying glass that is supplied as part of the cover. When the secret solver is placed over the answer boxes found in the book, the answer will appear. These books are delightful and would certainly help make numeracy lessons fun. For more information please visit [www.mombooks.com](http://www.mombooks.com) and click into the online catalogue.

