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# Newsletter for TAs and HLTAs

No 3 - Summer '10

Hi! We are pleased to bring you the third issue of the Teachers TV newsletter for TAs and HLTAs. In this edition we turn our attention to assessment and with the warmer weather on its way, highlight some great videos on outdoor learning. From Summer 2010 Teachers TV will become an exclusively online service. If you currently watch on the television only, you may want to consider watching online. Below are just some of the many benefits of using the website.

- Watch what you want, when you want
- Receive email tailored alerts
- Find help and support
- Download Classroom Resources
- Enjoy unlimited free access.

So join us online at [www.teachers.tv/ta](http://www.teachers.tv/ta)

We hope you have a good summer and we'll be back in the autumn.

## TAs with Talent Competition

We would like to thank everyone who took part in the TAs with Talent competition that Teachers TV ran last term. It was clear how highly all the TAs nominated by their schools were valued. Our congratulations go to Jane Brown, from The Elms Special School whose full programme TAs with Talent – The Winner can be viewed on the TAs area [www.teachers.tv/ta](http://www.teachers.tv/ta)

## TAs and Assessment for Learning

**Inclusion leader and teacher at Deansfield Primary School, Michelle Bernard, talks about how invaluable TAs are in helping with assessment as well as giving some tips for TAs who support Assessment for Learning with individuals, or small groups of pupils.**

I have always admired and valued the insight many TAs have regarding the pupils they work closely with.

Frequently support staff work with the same individual, or groups of pupils, on a regular basis. The pupils they work with will, more often than not, experience difficulties in areas such as:

- Written recording
- Attention and focus
- Organisation
- Sharing of thoughts or ideas

The curriculum must therefore be adapted to make it more accessible to these pupils.

To read the full article by Michelle go to [www.teachers.tv/ta](http://www.teachers.tv/ta)

## Recommended viewing

Below we've recommend two programmes featuring a primary and secondary school that illustrates different forms of assessment that support staff can be involved in, from working closely with teachers to give feedback on pupil progress to helping the pupils learn for themselves.

**Springboard Maths** [www.teachers.tv/videos/1433](http://www.teachers.tv/videos/1433)

The Springboard programme is designed to support those KS2 children who are slightly underachieving in numeracy. We see a teaching assistant supporting a group of children within the Year 5 class during the daily maths lesson. She assesses the pupils and suggests what they need to do next.

**TAs - In Special Schools** [www.teachers.tv/videos/31200](http://www.teachers.tv/videos/31200)

HLTAs and LSAs support and enrich the learning of students with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties at Oakwood School, Bexleyheath. The LSAs are subject specific and conduct in-class assessments.



## Focus on assessment – Teachers TV can show:

- Examples of TAs discussing pupils' progress with the teacher
- Ways of contributing to recording and collecting evidence
- Key characteristics of assessment for learning
- The importance of asking the right questions



## Secondary & Primary Cross-curricular – Learning Outside the Classroom

The summer term presents a real opportunity to develop learning outside the classroom. The Teachers TV website has some great videos featuring schools' interests in outdoor learning. Here are two videos to watch and if you are accompanying children outside, you could even watch the videos with pupils in class to help prepare them for their outing.

### Inner-City Forest

[www.teachers.tv/videos/25072](http://www.teachers.tv/videos/25072)

#### Part of the series: Inspirations

An inner city primary school has converted a nearby patch of abandoned woodland into their very own natural setting. Once a week, a park ranger, accompanied by the teacher and TA, leads small groups of children to the woods and shows them how to explore the world around them through play and problem solving.

### Learning Outside the Classroom - Bird Watching in Schools

[www.teachers.tv/videos/36639](http://www.teachers.tv/videos/36639)

#### Part of the series: Learning Outside the Classroom

Two schools take part in the RSPB's Big Schools' Birdwatch in a bid to discover more about the wildlife in their local area. The pupils from each school become involved in a range of activities including making bird food and feeders.

## New features on the web this term

Have you tried the Behaviour Challenge yet? Three kids, three possible strategies, what would you do?

Visit [www.teachers.tv/behaviour](http://www.teachers.tv/behaviour) and take the Teachers TV behaviour challenge, our new interactive tool. Choose a student to deal with, an approach to take and watch your actions played out. As with everything at Teachers TV it's all FREE.

## HLTA Corner

On the Teachers TV website at [www.teachers.tv/resources](http://www.teachers.tv/resources) there are some great new lesson starters to kick start your lesson and keep pupils engaged until the end of term. As well as short videos to use in class there are longer videos to help you plan lessons.

Don't forget our specialist hubs – [www.teachers.tv/ta](http://www.teachers.tv/ta) and [www.teachers.tv/hlta](http://www.teachers.tv/hlta)



### HOW GREEN IS YOUR SCHOOL?

Enter our great new competition to find the UK's greenest school. Visit [www.teachers.tv/green-school](http://www.teachers.tv/green-school) and you could win a great prize for your school.

