TreeTops inFact

Look Inside
These powerfully emotive non-fiction titles are guaranteed to draw children in as they explore the story behind each subject.

Oxford Level 10, Zaha Hadid: Building the Future

Powerfully emotive texts with personal accounts and lyrical writing

Expertly levelled so every child makes progress

Breathtaking artwork with stunning photography and unique illustrations

Intriguing topics explored in a quirky, child-friendly way

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The Impact

Primary teachers and librarians have been ‘road testing’ some of the new TreeTops inFact titles for ReadingZone and have found that the books appeal to a broad spectrum of readers and could support a range of activities in the classroom, including independent and guided reading.

The topics covered in the books are linked to the 2014 National Curriculum and ReadingZone’s reviewers agree there is scope to use them in a variety of ways in the classroom, in particular with topic and research-based work, and especially when working with groups of children of differing abilities.

There are signposts and suggested comprehension activities on the inside covers and, with a bit of preparation, others could be easily organised. Mayan Mysteries, for example, mentions glyphs and a mathematical system using base 20, and children would enjoy practical work around these topics. Other potential activities include scanning and skimming for facts, creating quizzes and posters, or preparing team presentations on topics within the books.

Individual titles can inspire different ways of working around the curriculum. One reviewer points to the Myths and Legends Kit, a genre commonly taught in year 5. She says, ‘In class I would probably have it as part of a topic box. It might also be possible to use the book as a writing stimulus whereby the children could use the formula described in the book as a way of generating ideas for their own myth.’

Verdict:
With the variety of topics covered and their appeal to a broad range of readers, the TreeTops inFact series scored highly with our reviewers. At a time when non-fiction is often overlooked in our classrooms and school libraries, it is good to be reminded how inspiring well-crafted non-fiction texts can be for both teaching and for individual readers.

Read the full review of TreeTops inFact at www.readingzone.com