Closing the attainment gap in Scotland

Big Writing Adventures

*Big Writing Adventures* is an exciting writing programme for P1–7 that puts purpose and audience at the heart of learning. It combines online content with a rigorous teaching sequence to ensure thorough skills coverage within contexts that are motivating and meaningful for children.

The programme is divided into exciting ‘Writing Missions’, which are available to schools as an annual subscription. When taking on a mission, all children within the class become ‘Writing Agents’ and are encouraged to develop and utilize their skills in order to solve a series of Writing challenges. Big Writing Adventures is based on Ros Wilson’s proven Big Writing pedagogy, where every child is given access to the next step targets that they need to achieve to make progress in their writing. Using the Oxford Writing Criterion Scale, teachers are able to identify what each child needs to do next in order to accelerate their development as writers. These skills are taught through fun, lively and purposeful activities – where every child is encouraged to participate at whatever level they are working at. Through utilizing Ros Wilson’s Big Writing approach, BWA targets some of the biggest issues that inhibit children’s development as writers – such as language deprivation, recognition and understanding of standard grammatical structures and engagement in the writing process.

Why is *Big Writing Adventures* suitable for schools in Scotland?

- Uses a proven approach to improve attainment in literacy
- Incorporates effective assessment so every child is taught at the right level
- Provides a clear record of progress for every child
- Engages parents and helps them support their child’s learning
- Supports every teacher with comprehensive professional development

Is *Big Writing Adventures* available throughout Scotland?

*Big Writing Adventures* resources are available throughout Scotland from your Oxford University Press Educational Consultant (see overleaf for contact details).

Find out more about the Scottish Attainment Challenge support and funding to help close the attainment gap at: [http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/inclusionandequalities/sac/index.asp](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/inclusionandequalities/sac/index.asp)

What impact has the *Big Writing* approach had in schools?

**NFER Initial Evaluation of Big Writing**

A research trial was carried out by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) to explore the impact of Big Writing. Data was collected from 11 primary schools across a six to eight week period during the summer and autumn terms of 2013.

- Teachers were positive about the approaches Big Writing highlights and were committed to embedding the approach.
- The oral VCOP activities and Big Write silent writing sessions were particularly valued.
- Teachers perceived a range of impacts on pupils including enjoyment of writing, writing confidence and writing skills, with the greatest impact on vocabulary and use of different writing styles.
- According to teachers, Big Writing was also felt to have a substantial impact on improving the creativity and structure of pupils’ writing and their grammar and punctuation.

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Training costs

Andrell Education and their expert team of consultants, led by Ros Wilson, offer a range of courses to enable successful implementation of the Big Writing methodology.

They have a very talented and experienced group of consultants that are trained by the creators of the approach to ensure they deliver to a consistently high standard. They are happy to work with schools to create bespoke training when required. This could include: one on one tuition, assessment, curriculum advice and hybrid training.

More information about training can be found at: http://www.andrelleducation.com/inset/

Resource costs

A Big Writing Adventures online subscription for each primary group costs from just £149 +VAT and a teaching pack costs just £73.50 for each primary group.

Your local Educational Consultant can advise you on the most suitable resources to meet the needs of your school and any current special offers.

Prices valid until 31st December 2017. Prices correct at time of going to press. All prices subject to change without notice.

Next steps...

Make an appointment with your local Educational Consultant, who will be happy to:

✔ Advise you on the resources you need to meet the exact requirements of your school.
✔ Provide a demonstration of resources.
✔ Recommend schools using Big Writing Adventures resources and how to contact them.