What is filmit?

Open Futures Resources
Raising attainment through bringing learning to life
More resources at www.openfutures.com

***filmit* is an internet video system which helps children document and share ongoing project work. *filmit* was developed by the Helen Hamlyn Trust to support *growit* and *cookit*, but has many other applications across the curriculum.**

filmit
Fact sheet

Introduction

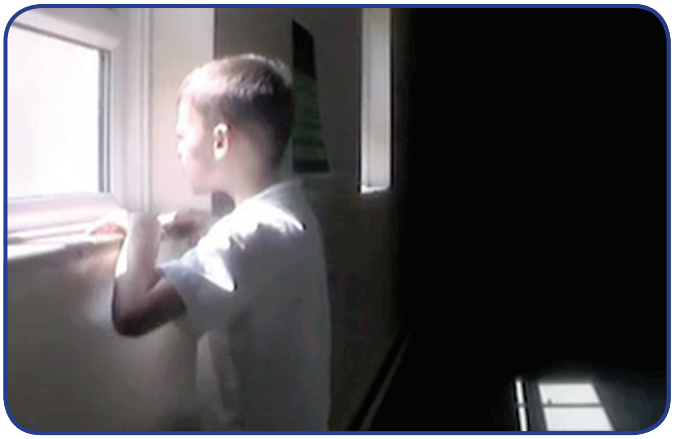
filmIt helps school children record and share educational experiences using video – a form of communication that children are familiar with via TV and cinema. *filmit* helps children express themselves through the language of moving image and begin to understand how the conventions of this language work through practical experience. By combining video production with internet sharing *filmit* is innovative, exciting and relevant for children. For teachers it offers an easy pathway to working with new technologies, exploring new forms of literacy and finding new ways to document their pupils' work.

Creating videos for the internet shares much with film making in general – a focus on well structured narratives; telling a story and giving a point of view. Even young children are skilled at understanding, using and applying existing genres such as documentary, news broadcasting, horror, comedy and drama.

However, short pieces work best on the internet. With careful planning and lots of imagination, short clips can take less time to make, and of course, less time to download and watch during the busy school day. The finished works need not be Academy Award winning masterpieces, but lively, creative and original, and full of the personality of the children who make them. We hope you will agree when you log in and view the films on the *filmit* website

As children from different schools add more and more videos to the *filmit* website, the archive grows into a valuable document that expands the ranges of learning experiences for all participants in the project. It allows children to share in each others successes and failures, adds to the fun and excitement of *filmit*, and even injects some healthy inter-school competition into the proceedings.

filmit is a password protected closed community to provide a secure environment for children to communicate online. However, it is possible for teachers to generate and print off passwords to allow access to specific clips so that parents and others in the wider school community can see what's online and post their comments.



The *filmit* website is accessible to any computer with an internet connection and the Flash player installed (over 98% of internet connected computers). To add films to the site you can use any video editing software on Windows or Mac and upload your finished films via the upload page on the website.

Please log in and have look at *www.openfuturesfilmit.info*