

Social Learning Software

Information PLUS
Social Learning Software
Information PLUS



Interactive resources for
social and behavioural learning

Information Plus
Issue 4

Social Learning Software

from Information PLUS

Welcome to Issue 4 of the Social Learning Software catalogue from Information Plus. What is social learning software? Simply an award winning range of interactive CDROM resources focused on behaviour, identity, relationships, choices and consequences. Through a range of styles and formats, Social Learning Software can help children and young people and (new this catalogue) adults with learning disabilities think through important life issues in an engaging interactive way. In use in more than 3000 locations throughout the UK and abroad, including social services, education, criminal justice, psychology, careers guidance and health promotion, Social Learning Software is a tried and testing way of addressing key life issues in a fun way.

New this issue are an exciting set of innovative resources for learning disabilities. Following on from the success of My Life Story and SpeakEasy (both aimed at children and young people), our new resource My Life Plan brings a unique interactive approach to Person Centred Planning. Using a popular mix of fill in fields, engaging interactive activities and training materials, My Life Plan represents a major step forward for support and engagement. Alongside My Life Plan, LifeBall Special is an adaption of our successful LifeBall format specifically geared to learning disability issues.

Recognition and praise for the Social Learning Software approach is also building as time goes on. In 2004, My Life Story was voted runner up in the HUSITA international Award for Best Human Service IT Application and in 2005 the overall Social Learning Software approach was outright winner of the Fusion Innovation Award sponsored by Microsoft.

To order Social Learning Software titles go to www.information-plus.co.uk or phone, fax or email to *Information Plus*, 3 Hill of Heddle, Finstown, Orkney, KW17 2LH; Tel. 01856 761334 ; Fax: 01856 761149; email: informationplus@compuserve.com



Managing Director

p.s. Official purchase orders are supplied on 30 day invoice terms so you can order, try and buy with complete confidence and send back anything that doesn't meet your needs!



*Receiving the Fusion Innovation Award
from Jennifer Elliot of Microsoft UK*



My Life Plan

by Les Cowan, Andy Bradley and Kirsty Murray

Nineteen sections, hundreds of fill in fields and dozens of interactive activities all designed to help adults with learning disabilities express thoughts, feelings, hopes and aspirations

Good practice has always meant involving adults with learning disabilities in plans for their future and gearing services to individuals needs and wishes. With current legislation, Government policy now recommends that every adult with a learning disability who wants a person centred plan should be able to have one and this should be the main support approach.

My Life Plan is a new interactive resource designed specifically for Person Centred Planning using the latest interactive software techniques. The overall aim is to help people talk about their lives, plan meetings and record agreed actions to monitor outcomes.

My Life Plan opens with an interactive town map. Clicking on buildings in the town allows users to choose what they want to talk about in 19 interactive sections. Key topics include Work, Communication, Important People, Health and Lifelong Learning. Each section uses a mixture of fill in fields, on screen activities, printable worksheets and training materials to cover issues of identity, choice, day to day support and future planning.

To aid in recording and expressing important relationships and memories, the Photo Gallery allows import of digital images from any picture viewing software. All data can be saved for future use and printed both as individual screens or compact reports.

Developed in collaboration with specialist input from Person Centred Planning practice, social work, social care education and occupational therapy, My Life Plan brings together professional expertise, interactive technologies and proven design and functionality. This innovative resource makes an exciting addition to the tools available to enable people with learning disabilities speak up about their lives.

Running directly from CD without permanently installing on computer, My Life Plan can be used with any number of individuals in many different locations. Full instructions included.

Mac and PC. £195.00 + VAT (£229.13)





My Life Story

by Bridget Betts and Afshan Ahmad



Shortlisted 2003
Best Resources for Direct
Work with Service Users



PROGRESS
CHILDRENS SERVICES

My Life Story is the first ever interactive resource for life story work with children who have lost birth family, may be looked after or are in need of counselling and support.

Includes 7 major input and activity sections each based around a theme ("Facts and Figures", "People and Places", "Past and Present" etc.). Over 750 input items and 40+ interactive activities for reflection on past experiences, current thoughts and feelings and hopes for the future. Includes full load, save and print tools, printable worksheets, and professional training guides. **Recommended age range 8 -16. Mac and PC. £59.53 + VAT (£69.95)**

Brilliant, excellent! It seems to cover everything. Derbyshire Social Services Social Worker

SpeakEasy

Developed as a companion to My Life Story, SpeakEasy enables looked after children and young people to express opinions, wishes and feelings and be fully involved in plans

for their future. Six interactive sections includes My Review, My Health, Keeping in Touch, and Future Plans. Also included are training resources, printable worksheets, printing and saving tools and a compact printable report for reviews and planning meetings.

Recommended age range 8 -16. Mac and PC. £64.00 + VAT (£75.20)



...allows young people to fill in fields to help them say what they think and feel about being in care. ...an exciting way of involving young people in the key decisions affecting their lives. Children Now May 2004



Multimedia Bruce's Story

Bruce, the spaniel sort of dog, has helped countless children think about changes in their own lives. Now with animation, sound effects, music and speech children can also play inside the story thinking about Bruce's adventures in relation to their own lives. All artwork in colour and line drawn versions for further activities. Now with improved loading and speech.

**Recommended age range 5-8. Mac and PC.
£34.00 + VAT (£39.95)**

...probably the most useful bit of material I have come across in helping children to come to terms with the moves entailed in the care system Adoption UK



Bridget's Taking a Long Time

by Nicky Ball
with Bridget Betts

Moving to new families always raises issues for birth children as well as children being placed. This beautifully illustrated story follows the hopes, fears and frustrations of a child in an adopting family coming to terms with a new arrival. Animations throughout, "click to read" text, video interviews with birth children and printable worksheets. An engaging, non-threatening way of helping children adjust to a new arrival and for professional training. **Recommended age range 5-12. Mac and PC. £34.00 + VAT (£39.95)**



...beautifully illustrated and coloured...both informative and charming as well as being compelling material. Seen and Heard



Billy Breaks the Rules



John Logie Baird
Awards for Innovation
Regional Winner 1999

Billy Breaks the Rules follows the ups and downs of normal family life. Even when it's all going well, there can be problems – like when Billy gets caught stealing and gets his pocket money cut. What's he going to do now? *Billy Breaks the Rules* allows children to deal with issues they find hard to talk about – in a safe and fun environment – then apply the issues raised to real life. Fifteen scenes, 10 different outcomes with talkabout topics, over 120 animations, sound effects, high quality speech, original music and interactivity.

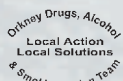
Recommended age range 8-14. Mac and PC. £34.00 + VAT (£39.95)

...a great asset to professionals wanting to harness new technology ... **Practical Parenting Newsletter**



Billy and the Big D-cision

Dilemmas, options and consequences relating to young people and drugs



Billy's back but life doesn't get any easier. Now some of his pals are dealing drugs at school and he has to decide what to do. Help is at hand though. Not only can Billy try out choices and consequences, but he can also get help on his mobile phone relevant to the scene he's in and consult an extensive drugs database. *Billy and the Big D-cision* offers young people the chance to explore a wide range of issues to do with drugs, through 18 scenes, 54 choices, 15 outcomes, 45 talkabout topics plus animations, sound effects and 2 sets of age appropriate worksheets.

Recommended age range 10-14. Mac and PC. £34.00 + VAT (£39.95)

Highly recommended for use in schools, youth clubs and indeed in the home. **Drugscope**

Billy and the Break In



Responding to the needs of young people with more serious behavioural issues, *Billy and the Break In* sees Billy's pals thinking about breaking into an off-licence and stealing money and drink. What's Billy going to do this time? With a similar format to earlier adventures but now dealing with more serious issues, *Billy and the Break In* also adds more characters, more situations and more "talkabout" topics (3 in every scene). An excellent way of raising a

host of issues in a safe and fun environment guaranteed to get young people thinking and talking.

Recommended age range 10-14. Mac and PC. £34.00 + VAT (£39.95)

LIFEBALL

A unique new format for life skills development



Based on the lottery draw machine, LifeBall is a new and exciting way of thinking about social skills, behavioural dilemmas and choices. Each different colour represents a social skill area and players are presented with situations from topic areas where these skills need to be used. Every choice has an effect on "health", "wealth", "relationships" and "self-esteem". And just like life, random events can also have an effect on their life indexes. An up to date format for a range of perennial problems and dilemmas. Now LifeBall comes in three versions geared to different situations and needs.



- **LifeBall** (age range 10-14) : a relevant and contemporary format for health, relationships and behavioural issues appropriate to the needs of the 10-14 year old age group.
Addresses all of the aims listed in the 5-14 PSD guidelines. A very useful package and fun for pupils and teachers John Moar, Head Teacher, Firth Primary School, Orkney
- **LifeBall Plus** (age Range 14+) uses the same format but with the more serious issues relevant to an older age group, including work and sexual behaviour . Other features as *LIFEBALL*
.... clear non-patronising language ... relevant and real for the age group ... This was an enjoyable game and non-IT literate individuals, whatever their age, would find it easy to follow. Drugscope 2003
- **LifeBall Special** (for adults with learning disabilities). New this year, LifeBall Special makes use of the same successful format but with topics geared to the needs of adults with learning disabilities including Independent Living, Learning and Leisure. Fully "click to read" text and relevant situations.



All versions Mac and PC. £34.00 + VAT (£39.95)

PROBLEMATIC

THE RADIO PHONE IN PROBLEM SOLVER



An exciting new format for mid and older teens addressing dilemmas, choices and consequences based on calls to a radio phone- in show. Players take the part of studio panelists advising callers on a range of problems. including health, education, family, crime, work, sexuality and personal beliefs. By offering good advice players can progress from "Panelist" through "Advisor" to "Expert" and in the process think through their own attitudes and choices. Features voice recording and 60



FEATURING BIG BROTHER WINNER CAMERON STOUT

video clips of Big Brother winner Cameron Stout as the DJ encouraging players to discuss and think through their own responses. **Recommended age range 14+ £34.00 + VAT (£39.95)**



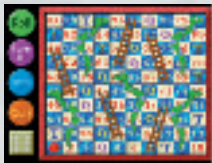
CONTRACEPTION: THE COMPUTER GAME



Based on the successful *Contraception: the Board Game* from Contraception Education Ltd., this interactive version aims to make talking about sexual health, behaviour and choices easier, more informative and more constructive. Designed for 1-4 players or teams, the game involves counters landing on “Risk”, “Question”, “Choices” and “Wait Here” squares. On the way players test their knowledge of sexual health and contraception, assess and avoid risky behaviours, think through dilemmas and collect information.

Contraception: the Computer Game is explicit in terms of language, information and situations but always encourages responsible behaviour characterised by not giving in to outside pressure, opting for safer choices and not launching into sexual behaviour and experimentation individuals are not yet mature enough to cope with. Sample questions and situations available from our web site and all material included in PDF files for review and further activities.

Age range 13+. Mac and PC. £34.00 + VAT (£39.95)



Parenting Snakes and Ladders

Takes the familiar format and applies it to the important subject of parenting skills. To win the game players have to choose the best option for a range of parenting problems. Five age groups, 75 dilemmas, 75 healthy development questions and over 40 general discussion themes.

Co-operative rather than competitive so players have to pool knowledge and skills to reach the top. Developed by a multi-disciplinary Childcare Partnership team and suitable for school, youth clubs, parenting classes and family work. **Age range 14+. Mac and PC. £34.00 + VAT (£39.95)**

... exactly what I've been looking for for years... engaging and effective. Gordon Staite, Independent Services: Children & Families



BUSTED

by Hy Resnick PhD

How can young people learn about actions and consequences, develop a value system and explore relationships and responsibility? BUSTED offers a fun environment for decisions and consequences without the pain of mistakes and misunderstandings. Topics include Work, School, Family, Play, Health, Fun and Action. By making choices, players find out what might happen next, and gain or lose points.

Recommended age range 10-14. Mac and PC. £34.00 + VAT (£39.95)

... an effective resource for helping young people think about options, consequences and outcomes **Lochaber Drug and Alcohol Forum**



Information PLUS

is a developer of innovative multimedia applications in social learning, behaviour support, social skills and decision making. We aim to aid social learning by developing engaging, relevant and effective resources both direct users and professionals can use with confidence.