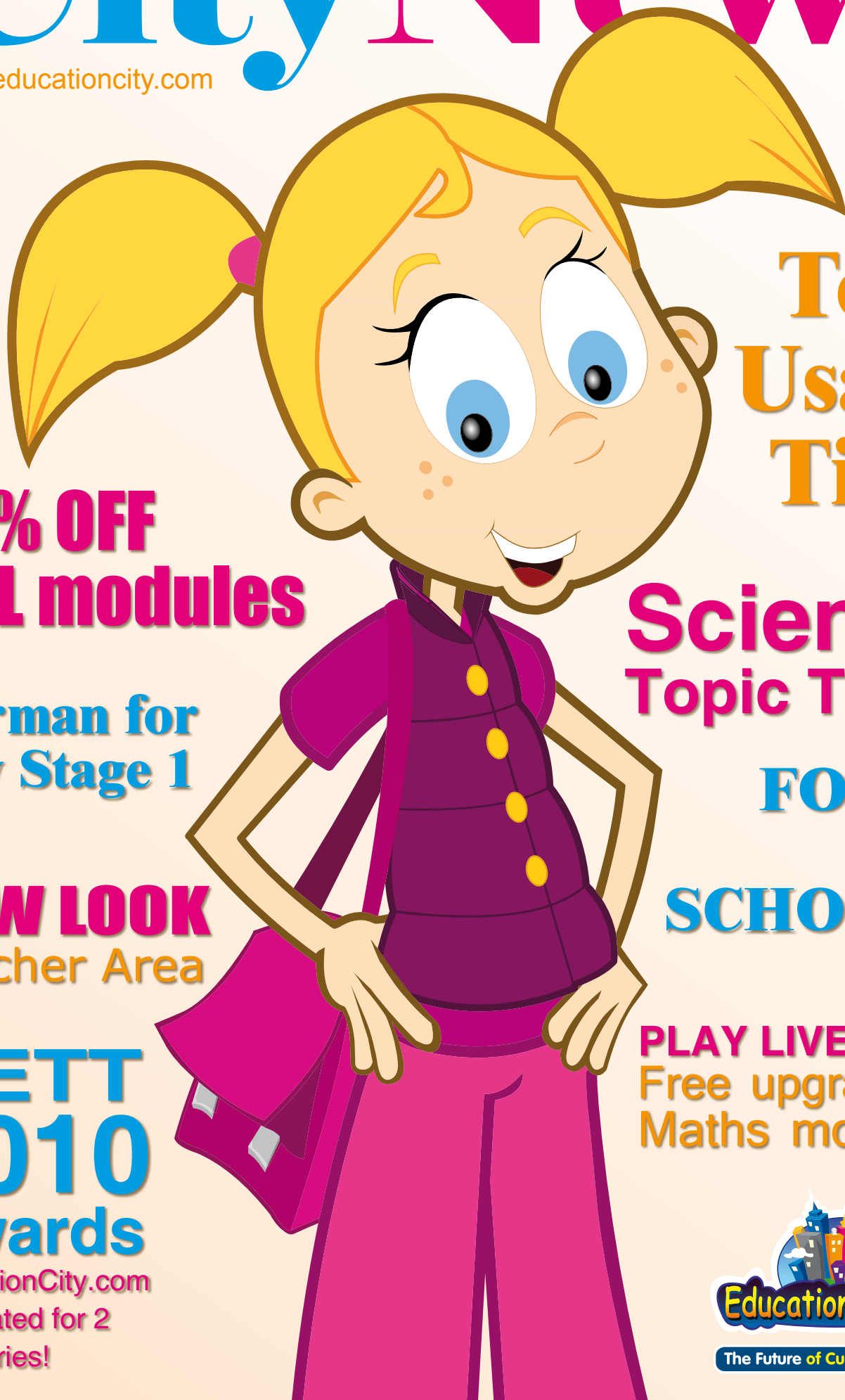


# CityNews

www.educationcity.com



**Top Usage Tips**

**25% OFF MFL modules**

**Science Topic Tools**

**German for Key Stage 1**

**FOCUS ON SCHOOLS**

**NEW LOOK Teacher Area**

**PLAY LIVE arena Free upgrade to Maths modules**

**BETT 2010 Awards**

EducationCity.com nominated for 2 categories!



# 25% OFF EducationCity.com MFL modules

To welcome in the new teaching requirement for Modern Foreign Languages for 7-14 year olds, EducationCity.com is offering you 25% off when you add a French, German or Spanish module to your school's EducationCity.com subscription.



## 25% off French

Call us today on  
**0844 225 3060**  
to activate your  
**FREE 21 day trial**  
or to subscribe.



## 25% off German



## 25% off Spanish

**Subscribe by 31st January 2010 and  
get 25% off. Use your Harnessing  
Technology Grant and get a month's  
subscription FREE!**

Offer applies to all Modern Foreign Language modules. England and Wales: French, German and Spanish modules are £45, usually £60. Scotland: French and Spanish modules for Levels A-C are £67.50, usually £90. French and Spanish modules for Levels D-E are £45, usually £60. Offers valid until 31/01/2010. Offers apply for new modules and renewals but cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, with the exception of the Harnessing Technology Grant "13 months for the price of 12" offer.

EducationCity.com, 8/9 Saddlers Court, Oakham, Rutland LE15 7GH. Tel: 0844 225 3060 Fax: 0844 225 3061  
Email: [sales@educationcity.com](mailto:sales@educationcity.com). EducationCity is registered as Community trade mark 004475381.



# Welcome

## Contents

- 4-5 What's New!
- 6 EducationCity.com Update
- 7 Focus on Schools

## Christmas comes early...

In an ever-changing sector such as education, there are always new initiatives in the pipeline and at EducationCity.com, we work hard to provide you with a resource to meet, and anticipate, these demands.

Our City News magazine gives us the opportunity to showcase the new content and features we introduce on an ongoing basis to support you and your pupils. As always, we've lots to update you on. Some of the developments, such as our Play Live Maths upgrade, you may already be aware of, but others will hopefully be completely new to you.

We hope you find it informative and enjoy the new easy-read format. And, if you would like to let us know what you think, about either the magazine or our product as a whole, please either log onto the EducationCity.com Forum or email us on [info@educationcity.com](mailto:info@educationcity.com). We are always open to suggestions and receptive to ideas.

*Kathryn*

Kathryn Marchant



Editor  
[kathrynm@educationcity.com](mailto:kathrynm@educationcity.com)



# What's New!

EducationCity.com now extends far beyond our hallmark interactive, engaging activities. And today offers you a resource that is flexible enough to support teaching, learning and assessment throughout the school day, in your after-school club and at home.

## play Live

Looking for something new to get your pupils excited about learning their times tables?

EducationCity.com's new Play Live arena, added as a free upgrade to our Maths modules, brings an element of fun and competition into the proceedings.

It allows pupils to take part in mental maths tournaments against children across the country in real time and represents a dynamic and interactive alternative to regular mental maths tests for teachers.

Our usage statistics already prove it to be a firm favourite amongst our schools with up to 1,500 schools playing every day and over 500,000 tournaments already played!

Get set for your pupils to compete in the arena today and see the compelling learning experience in action. You will find the Play Live button in Maths on the Subject Select screen.

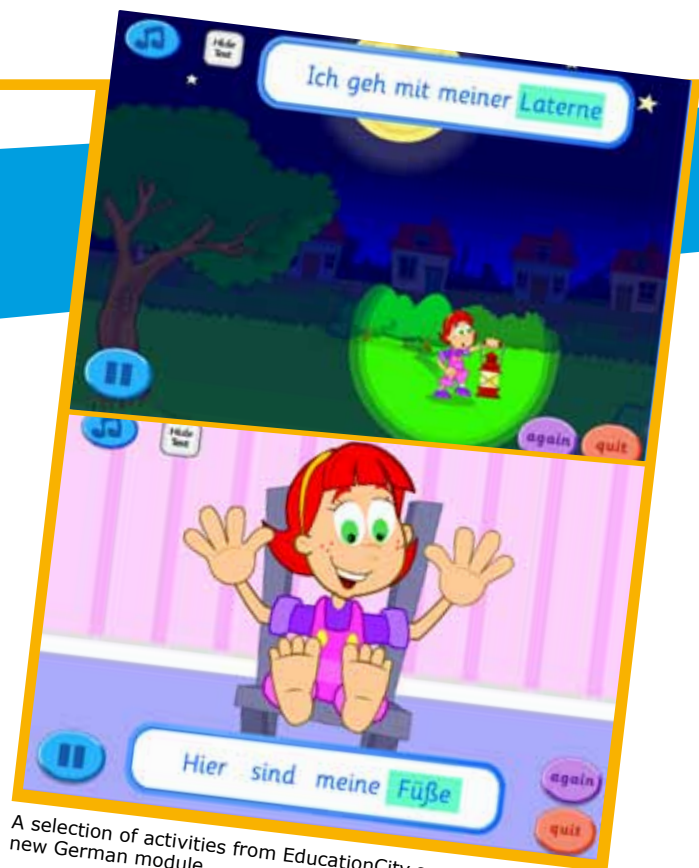
## Key Stage 1 German

With modern foreign language teaching to be a compulsory part of the national curriculum for children aged 7 to 14 by 2010, EducationCity.com has added its new German module to Key Stage 1.

The module, like its French and Spanish sister modules, has been designed for teachers with no prior knowledge of languages, and is ideal for embracing children's natural curiosity and excitement about learning other languages.

It includes lively sing-along nursery rhymes to raise children's awareness of the language, then introduces vocabulary in a structured way. This helps the children identify the new sounds involved and understand that meaning is conveyed in exactly the same way as English.

EducationCity.com is offering 25% off any language module subscribed to by 31st January, 2010. To arrange a trial or to subscribe, simply call us on 0844 225 3060 or email [sales@educationcity.com](mailto:sales@educationcity.com).



A selection of activities from EducationCity.com's new German module

# Topic Tools

Do you find the Interactive Teaching Programmes (ITPs) difficult to use? Have you tried EducationCity.com's Topic Tools as an alternative? You'll find they are much more user-friendly and easy to incorporate into your lesson whatever your teaching style.

EducationCity.com's Maths Topic Tools have been in place for some time now, but we've just added new tools for Literacy to the resource to help teachers engage learners with literacy and build their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

The tools cover speed reading, text features, letter tiles and word searches and provide teachers with a framework for them to load their own content into as well as ready-to-use banks of texts and vocabulary.

Take a look today to see where they can make your lessons more interactive. You'll find them beside the Activities in the Subject Select page. And within the revolving "i" button, you will find details of activities best suited to follow on from them.

The new Literacy Topic Tools for text features, letter tiles and word searches



## New Look



Our new look front page was unveiled at the beginning of the new school year in order to clearly separate the Teacher Area from the pupil content.

The outcome is an EducationCity.com that is much easier to use, which has everything you need in one, easy-to-find, place, and looks fresher and more appealing to boot.

We've had fantastic feedback as a result of the change, especially as a result of the new Whiteboard Mode Play button, which allows you to set the activity for computer or whiteboard use at the time you use it.



## Science Topic Tools

Hot on the heels of our Literacy Topic Tools is the first ever Science tool – and it's well worth a look if you're planning to explore planets with your classes!

It provides a fantastic framework to facilitate open-ended discussion about several key space science concepts. As well as learning the planet names and positions, pupils can observe the key characteristics of the planets, and interact and engage with celestial objects that both orbit and rotate.

Customise the tool to suit your class's ability levels. Using the settings, you'll find you can have some planets or labels already in place. You can also add a timer so pupils can complete the Solar System against the clock. See the tool in action by going to Year 5/Level E > Science > Planet Watch > Teacher Zone > Topic Tools.

# EducationCity.com Update

News about EducationCity.com continues to spread, with subscribers growing year-on-year. Today, we are pleased to announce the 12,000th subscribing school.

## 12,000 and counting ...

EducationCity.com welcomed in its 12,000th subscribing school in October - Walford Primary School in Herefordshire! The school joined us after taking part in Herefordshire's Local Authority-wide trial, and they are now enjoying the resource on their Whiteboards, computers and for homework.



Class at Walford Primary School, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire

“The children find the activities really appealing and fun”, explains Claire Weyman, Yr 2 Teacher and ICT Coordinator. “Our classes are now always asking for EducationCity.com homework and the response from parents has been really positive!”

“Our teachers also love EducationCity.com, but for them it's the myCity functionality which they really welcome, as it helps them differentiate tasks for independent work. They are also really impressed that it's so quick and easy to use, includes such a wide range of activities and is eco-friendly.”

## Latest News! Stop the press!

Have you heard that the BETT Awards shortlist has just been released, and that EducationCity.com has been nominated in two categories?

That's right! We're finalists in both ICT Company of the Year and ICT Exporter of the Year categories. Which is amazing news, as the awards are the most prestigious in the education industry and recognise both exemplar education companies and outstanding digital products which serve the education sector.

Winners are to be announced at the BETT Awards 2010, due to take place at the Hilton, Park Lane on 13th January 2010.



## Stig and Sten make Oakham their home!

In August, EducationCity.com moved lock, stock and barrel to the rural market town of Oakham, where it now has a wonderfully spacious 9,000 sq. ft. purpose-built office for its 60 members of staff.



Simon Booley and Matt Drakard from EducationCity.com with Carol Chambers

Officially opened by Carol Chambers, Director of Children and Young People's Services at Rutland County Council, our new offices provide the space our expert teams require to create and grow the content and support we offer our subscribers, and genuinely reflects both our brand and its values.

# Focus on Schools

## Top Usage Tip

Success breeds success so they say, and as such it's fantastic to see so many of EducationCity.com's subscribers making the ICT Excellence Awards 2009 shortlist.

One school on the shortlist is Park Road Primary in Sale, Manchester, and Liz Clover, Headteacher, is a true advocate of EducationCity.com.

"EducationCity.com", she enthuses, "really motivates the children to practise their basic skills. They use it both in lessons and at lunchtimes, and the ability to track their progress quickly helps our class teachers to ensure that different attainment groups are given the support that they need."



Pupils at Park Road Primary School, Sale using EducationCity.com



Pupils at Walsall FC Saddlers Learning Centre on Play Live

Other schools and study centres have been contacting us about Play Live. Sue Lane from the Walsall FC Saddlers Learning Centre was one of EducationCity.com's first users of Play Live, and says, "Play Live was met with great enthusiasm from both the children and adults in our centre. The children loved it so much, they all wanted to have it back at school."

## First commercial ICT resource for embc

Early this autumn, EducationCity.com became the first commercial ICT resource to provide Local Authorities in the embc\* region Single Sign-On access via Shibboleth.

This ground-breaking initiative means that 2,200 schools now have the opportunity to access EducationCity.com directly via the embc portal without logging in separately, and gain in terms of security, speed of use and ease of management.

This highlights EducationCity.com's technical expertise to schools and LA teams, and confirms that we still stand at the forefront of curriculum content.

\* embc is a limited company wholly owned by Derbyshire, Leicester City, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire and Rutland.

**embc**  
connecting people to learning

# New staff members using EducationCity.com? Need a refresher?

The answer: Professional Development  
Training from EducationCity.com!



● **Introductory product training** - Suitable for staff new to EducationCity.com, this session focuses on the basics and best practice to help teachers embed EducationCity.com into their lesson planning

● **Product refresher training** - This session covers the areas of the resource added since your school first subscribed and focuses on how EducationCity.com can be used to support different teaching styles

● **Customised training sessions** - We can personalise our training sessions to meet your specific needs. Call us to discuss your exact requirements

- Further embed the use of EducationCity.com across your school
- See best practice in action
- Maximise the value of your subscription
- Discover new features

**Book your training session today ...**

Tel: 0844 225 3060

Email: [sales@educationcity.com](mailto:sales@educationcity.com)

Training can be scheduled as a morning, afternoon or twilight session and is available to unlimited members of staff.

[www.EducationCity.com](http://www.EducationCity.com)

Tel: 0844 225 3060

Fax: 0844 225 3061

8/9 Saddlers Court, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 7GH

EducationCity.com is registered as Community Trade Mark 004475381

