

Using Key Elements to Make Learning Connections and Explore Issues

You could also consider creating activities which use some of the Key Stage 3 Curriculum Key Elements as a way of making learning connections across Areas of Learning and to explore issues. The following are some examples of how you might use Key Elements in your activities:

Citizenship

The Key Element of Citizenship could also be used to make learning connections between the Areas of Learning of Science and Technology and Learning for Life and Work. For example, you could produce an activity to explore the idea of CERN as a global community. Pupils could compile information about the different nationalities and cultures of people working at CERN and explore cultural diversity.

Useful Links

- CERN
- Global Dimension (Global Citizenship)
- BBC School (Global Citizenship)
- British Council (Science and Citizenship)

Cultural Understanding

You could use the Key Element of Cultural Understanding to produce an activity which makes links with History by investigating the history of atomic theory and developments in particle physics. The activity might focus on how scientific/ technological discoveries or events can lead to others. Alternatively, pupils might use this example to examine the history of scientific methods.

Useful Links

- History of the Atom
- Atomic Timeline
- Web2 (History of the Atom)
- You tube: History of the Atom

Employability

You might use the Key Element of Employability to make learning connections between the Areas of Learning of Science and Technology and Learning for Life and Work. For example, an activity focus might be on how the skills developed in Science and Technology can be applied to a wide range of careers.

Pupils could investigate the range of careers provided by CERN and look more closely at the roles of Scientists and Engineers. This might be linked to research on local STEM based industries to identify career opportunities. Pupils could find out if any local companies are involved in work at CERN and the type of work they do.

Useful Links

- CERN Careers
- QUB STEM Academy
- Futuremorph
- CCEA

Media Awareness

Evaluate the role of the media in covering CERN experiments. For example pupils could consider why CERN has received worldwide media attention. Pupils could compare and contrast media reports from different countries. They could research how the experiments at CERN are presented in the media, find and use evidence to make judgments about the accuracy of media reports.

Useful Links

- Guardian (CERN News Article)
- Daily Mail (CERN News Article)
- Daily Mail (CERN News Article)
- Telegraph (CERN News Article)
- CERN podcasts

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Spiritual Awareness

The Key Element of Spiritual Awareness could provide a way to explore different views about the origins of the Universe and could be connected with Religious Education. For example, pupils could compare, contrast and evaluate different views/beliefs about the origins of the Universe. Pupils might investigate Creationism, Intelligent Design and the Big Bang Theory and use this information to present their own views or different perspectives about how the Universe was created.

Useful Links

- [BBC \(Science – Big Bang\)](#)
- [CERN podcasts](#)
- [About.Com](#)
- [All About Creation](#)
- [Institute for Creation Research](#)
- [Centre for Scientific Creation](#)
- [Discovery](#)
- [Creationism, Intelligent Design and Science Education](#)
- [BBC \(Interview with Jocelyn Bell\)](#)