



# CRITICAL SKILLS PROGRAMME Newsletter



Welcome to Issue 8 of the CSP Newsletter



## HERE COMES SUMMER

Here comes summer ...The holidays are upon us up here in Scotland. The weather is smiling in tune with our sunny mood.

Those of us who can make it, are looking forward to building community, sharing and shaping our future together, in Leicester at our annual Summer Seminar 27-29 July.

The Seminar programme is looking 'out of this world' and we are anticipating being 'challenged' in our thinking and actions as some of us, yet again, work and play together.

There are currently lots of media stories presenting a bleak picture for many in the world of work and play. Our CSP community's integrity and shared values are great strengths. To borrow words from our great Scottish bard, Robbie Burns, they are 'ready armour.....amid the struggle of this turbulent existence.'



We are well equipped to meet our challenges and grow. Let us boldly go.....

Maggie Clark  
Programme Manager, Scotland



## GOLDEN VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL NORTH SOMERSET

### OFSTED REPORT - MAY 2009

Please click onto [REPORT](#) below to read Golden Valley Primary School's, fantastic Ofsted report and the references Ofsted make to the impact of the Critical Skills Programme on the all-round development of the pupils.

### [OFSTED REPORT](#)

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**A well run, well organised and enjoyable course. I am buzzing with ideas to improve my classroom! At the moment I cannot wait for the next 3 days.**

Simon Lynch - Whippingham Primary, Isle of Wight

## COMMUNITY BUILDER

### SECRET DETECTIVE

#### Why play it?

- To provide fun.
- To reach group consensus.
- To develop questioning skills.

#### How to play

- Sit in a circle (including facilitator)
- Decide on a category, e.g. object in the room, celebrity, job, colour.
- Choose one person to leave the room.
- The group decides on the answer.
- The individual returns and has ten questions to try to guess what the group have decided. They can only ask questions with yes or no answers.

#### Possible Debrief

- Skills needed? ASK debrief.
- Being positive with incorrect guesses.
- Good questioning strategies?

#### Why not...

- Try using to teach aspects of the curriculum, e.g. properties of shapes - has it got six vertices etc.



## STOP PRESS!

### EXCITING NEWS



## THE NEW WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE

### VISIT OUR FANTASTIC NEW WEBSITE AT

[www.criticalskills.co.uk](http://www.criticalskills.co.uk)

The community page will be live by the end of July and will be an exciting development for the community, with a number of advanced features, allowing a substantial amount of interaction. One of the first benefits is that the newsletter will be able to highlight longer and more substantial articles, too long to include in the newsletter itself by providing hotlinks back to relevant parts of the website. This will include new design ideas for specific situations developed by Programme Managers and our resident Consultants. You can register your details on the community page ready for when it goes live by visiting our website and clicking onto the community page.