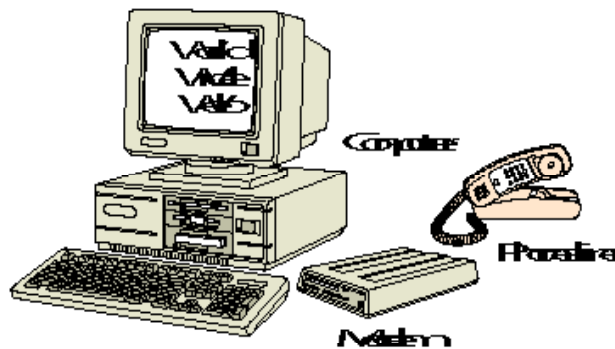
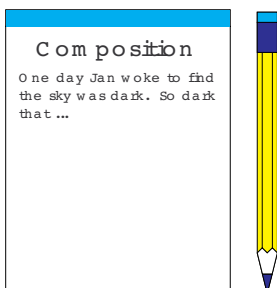


Word processing ideas

Writing stories

The children can use the word processor to develop a story. For example, they can write about plants and light using the story-starter: "One day Jo woke to find the sky was dark..."



The Internet - connect up to the world

More than a place to read other people's work, it's a place to publish too. Get yourself a space on the school web site and mark it 'Our first web pages' so that it's separate from the rigid prospectus and mission stuff - then get publishing. Find out how to set up a 'blog' (www.blogger.com) - it's a weblog or diary where you can post things to the site as easily as writing an email. If it's accessible, you'll not look back. It is hard to overestimate injecting a 'live' unpredictable element into school work

Making a newspaper

A newspaper project can provide an excellent focus for science work. For example, the children might prepare a science magazine or a recycling campaign newspaper.

The newspaper might talk about the kinds of materials that can be recycled and how these materials find their way back into use. It can explain how glass can be melted and reused, and it can say why glass is sorted into different colours. It might talk about the quality of recycled paper and the uses of recycled paper. It can be illustrated.

A class science magazine can feature the discoveries of members of the class. The children can talk about the investigations they did and include pictures of themselves. They might talk about their noise survey or about an investigation to find the best brand of trainers.

There is scope here for a whole class project. You can have teams of picture editors, reporters, sub-editors, printers and so on, all working to an agreed production schedule.

You need a print a decent print may also need time, but the evidence to date indicates that children benefit from such activity enormously.

