

tees valley arts...

promoting creativity in lifelong learning: art, science, creativity, aspiration, fun, learning, confidence, change, insight, respect, tolerance, self-esteem, friendship, citizenship, progression, challenge, opportunity, achievement

# easi

education through the arts  
in science and industry



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## education through the arts in science and industry

The **easi** programme is an exciting and innovative partnership between **tees valley arts** and the North East Process Industry Cluster Education Unit (NEPIC).

The **easi** programme seeks to explore ways in which science and the arts can work together, to raise aspirations in education across the Tees Valley, and to promote a wider understanding of, and engagement with, the world of science and industry.

**easi** programme activities in schools can offer pupils and teaching staff the opportunity to engage with their local historical and geographical surroundings, and the processes that have built them, or to explore basic scientific processes in imaginative and creative ways. The links with NEPIC ensure unrivalled worksite access and support.

The **easi** programme offers continuing professional development and support for teachers and PGCE students.

The **easi** programme has grown out of the Artist in Residence in Science (AiRiS) pilot projects, which proved so successful that this new programme of work was established.

### Highlights so far have included –

- **Kirkleatham Hall Special School** – a dramatist and a set designer worked with two groups of children and teaching and support staff to create a performance piece based on sea and pond life. Staff commented that the project helped pupils to learn and remember in a way they could not have, just by using traditional classroom techniques.
- **Priory Woods Special School** – a sculptor and a dramatist worked with students and staff to explore the human skeleton, culminating in a stunning performance piece under ultra-violet light and the creation of kinetic humanoid sculptures which now decorate and enhance the school. This is documented on the school's award-winning website.
- **Primary Animations** – an animator worked with Julie Jones from Children Challenging Industry alongside children and staff in four primary Schools to produce four animated films – 'A Pinch of Salt' (St. Helen's Primary School); 'Water for Industry' (St. Andrew's RC Primary School); 'Plastics for Playtime' (Beechgrove Primary School); and 'Colour' (Caedmon Primary School). Making these films provided an unforgettable experience for the pupils, both creatively and educationally, and their work is now used in other schools as a teaching aid.
- **Carmel Sixth Form College** – a writer worked with students and staff in the science department, developing creative and imaginative approaches to scientific concepts such as reproduction, experimentation, respiration, movement and chemical elements. The resulting poetry was published in an illustrated book.

All of these projects have offered unique creative and educational opportunities for staff and students alike, have contributed to educational attainment in their host schools, and have left a legacy of benefit, plus a tangible outcome such as a film, or manual, or toolkit, or installation

## easi programme – the future



### ***'Having a poet in the class makes science different from the past'***

Carmel student

The **easi** collaboration and programme of events and residencies will continue, and will feed into the **evolve** programme, and further continuing professional development opportunities for teachers and PGCE students.

### **evolve: promoting creative learning in science and the arts**

The evolve project will run from September 05 – March 07, and will bring together a comprehensive package of exciting and inspiring activities for young people, teachers, PGCE students, artists and arts graduates in the Tees Valley. The programme will offer teachers new and creative ways of teaching science through artists residencies, and will provide training and support for artists, teachers and PGCE students.

### **Heritage Project: A historical perspective of the chemical industries at Wilton**

A creative writer will work with pupils and staff in a local Primary School, a visual artist will be placed in the local Special School, and a kinetic sculptor will work in the Secondary School. They will all explore themes around the history, impact, environment and industrial processes involved at the Wilton Site. This project will meet DfES Objectives in relation to Vocational Work and Work Related Learning.