

FileMaker Learning Packs launched to provide cross-curricular learning

The (Curriculum Online) COL approved FileMaker Learning Packs will contain a copy of FileMaker Pro 8.5 and teaching and learning materials for:

- Geography
- History
- Religious Education

with more uses highlighted for Science, ICT and Physical Education.

The technology is more sophisticated yet easier to use than MS Access and Excel, enabling teachers to conduct cross-curricular learning supported by activities and exercises in the FileMaker Learning Packs.

The Becta approved FileMaker Learning Pack provides curriculum, assignments and teacher support to easily implement databases in the classroom with varied learning approaches. There are numerous requirements for database usage throughout the national curriculum and it is hoped that these learning packs will help to achieve greater understanding and increased use of databases within the curriculum, rather than simply ICT lessons, to demonstrate how technology can help engage and inspire students. The use of technology in the classroom can help transform lessons for both teacher and pupils.

The FileMaker in the School Curriculum Pack consists of:

- **Three cross-curricular assignments** supported by activities and exercises integrated with FileMaker 8.5 Pro. The three assignments – one Geography, one History, and one Religious Studies, are supported by 20+ tables of information in 3 databases, and 140 slides and pages of supporting exercises, user help and guidance.
- **The Geography assignment** guides the student through five investigations into the effects of tourism on a managed visitor location. The data collected and analysed in FileMaker helps the student to develop informed conclusions and evaluations, and present a well-structured report of their findings. It also presents opportunities for students to make more in-depth studies and related reports.
- **The History assignment** focuses on the period of industrial growth between 1750 and 1900 and guides students through a study of the relationship between the inventions of that time and the dramatic changes in population numbers in Britain and Ireland. Students can compare more clearly various types of information about the period and form better informed views.
- **The Religious Education assignment** encourages students to build data about World Religions and how they celebrate their faith. The data is analysed, searched and 'related' in FileMaker and a structured report is produced presenting the understanding knowledge and ICT skills learned.
- **FileMaker 8.5 Pro Application Disk**
 - User manual**
 - Installation Guide**
 - Full-length tutorials** for students and teachers to explore the full programme potential.

Key Features of 8.5 Pro for Educators:

Safe, sophisticated and powerful
User-friendly interface with extensive integration capabilities
Container fields for pictures, charts and MS Office and other documents (linked to their source if required)
Web-viewer and portal functions
Scripting functionality
Easy sharing capability