

Dr Fiona Brooks of the University of Hertfordshire has been evaluating Making the News in the E2BN region.

The evaluation continues into the Autumn Term and findings will be published in full in January 2006. Initial feedback is as follows: overall the children gained a sense of achievement from having produced a quality product. This medium enables those children who find presenting in a written form a challenge to gain a sense of achievement through the production of text. None of the children found the system difficult or problematic to use in any way.

Feedback received from pupils included:

- * **"It sounds complicated with all the equipment but once I got to it I found it was really easy - easy links and pathways, easy to post a story."** (Girl)
- * **"You don't have to remember complicated instructions you just do it, it's easy."** (Girl)
- * **"I liked not having to write it on paper, it looks neater so my work looks nicer and no one was telling me, 'that's all messy'. I liked doing the writing for it and I don't like doing that sort of thing, stories and stuff, in class."** (Boy)

Interviewer: Why did you like using making the news more than writing in class?:

- * **"It was more fun and you didn't have to make it perfect at once, so it was easier to write."** (Boy)
- * **"Yes, it was more fun than just writing it all out, you got something that you felt really pleased with at the end. I liked seeing it all perfect at the end, looking nice, sort of, "I did that!"** (Girl)
- * **"It's good you can do loads of stuff on it, make newspapers, interview people, I liked that bit, as that was something new for me. Then putting it on the web, it felt like wow."** (Boy)

On showing adults/teachers how to use MTN at the E2BN Conference:

- * **"It was something we found easier than adults, like they couldn't use the mouse so I showed them, I liked that I knew something and they didn't. It felt good."** (Girl)
- * **"I quite liked teaching something as well it felt really nice to be showing someone something you could do."** (Girl)

For further information access:

http://kmi4schools.e2bn.net/mtn_central/

