

***Differentiated questions to ask children who are using a database programme.***

Information Workshop has prepared databases containing many records e.g. Types of Birds, and Monarchs.

Files can be simplified by just selected a few files as a SUBGROUP. E.g. the Tudor monarchs only could be selected from the database of all the Monarchs

Load File

Search to find just Tudor Monarchs

Chose FILE, SAVE SUB FILE and name it "TUDORS"

You now have a subfile containing only the record files located in the search.

Introduce one button at a time using a question.

**(P3 – P5)**

1. Encourage children to find a particular record file.

"Can you find the file on Queen Elizabeth?"

"What year was she born?"

"Can you find the file for the Crow?"

Children find the answers by reading that particular record file. When the children have found a particular record file, then ask them questions about that record. (Comprehension exercise)

"When was Queen Elizabeth born?"

"What do crows like to eat?"

**(P3 – P5)**

Now begin to ask slightly more complex questions where children have to think about what field name to look under.

"Find Alfred the Great,.....

,..... When did he come to the throne?"

*Support can be given to some by supplying the field name (i.e. date crowned) to look for.*

**(P4 – P5)~ P6 – P7 specific searches**

Now pick a field name heading, (without telling the children) and give a piece of information to look for.

E.g. Mentally choose a heading (Significant Events), and ask questions.

“Who was buried at Westminster Abbey?”

*Again support may be given to some by providing them with the field name to look for.*

*Suggested questions for a database on the weather*

	Actions needed
Find which was the hottest day	Sort by Max temperature in descending order
Find the coolest day	Sort by min temp in ascending order
Find which day had most sunshine etc.	Notice any anomalies e.g. where entries are zero rather than a level that might be expected
Find the records for one particular month	Search under Month headings - confirm that number of records found is the number expected
Find hottest and coldest days by using graphs	Use graphs to plot appropriate fields for each day in the month
Enter additional data	In data entry mode enter the extra data for April 1998

**(P4 – P5)~ P6 – P7 specific searches**

Introduce SEARCH

Introduce children to the SEARCH icon, by asking them questions.

“In who’s reign was the Battle of Hastings?”

Search REIGN, Same as BATTLE OF HASTINGS

“Under who’s reign did *this* happen?”

*Support could be given to some by giving them the field name to search for.*

**(P6 and P7)**

Introduce SORTING by making comparisons

5. Sort data

“Who spent the most time / least time on the throne?”

To do this, Sort data on YEARS ON THRONE

Use GRAPH to look at data

	Action Needed
Set up own file for comparison of data (may just be a subset of the data)	Need to understand different field headings and the type of information going into those fields e.g. text, numbers
Consider questions like when are you most likely to take precautions against sunburn e.g. above a certain temperature and number of hours of sunshine? What time of year is this most likely to happen?	Combined search to find, for examples, when temperature is above 25C and more than 2 hours sunshine. Look at results Which months do these conditions occur in? Is it what we expect?

**(P6 and P7)**

(The Monarch database from Information Workshop is used here as an example)

7. Use a database by sorting, searching, and graphing

A sheet with the following questions could be given to assess the children’s ability to use a database.

How many records are there? .....

Which Monarch is first? .....

Which Monarch is last? .....

In what order are the cards? .....

Look carefully at the headings or fieldnames .....

Do you know what they all mean? .....

What information is there in the NOTES field? .....

What sort of information is there in the KEY EVENTS field? .....

What is a DISCOVERY or INVENTION? .....

Complete the table below by flicking through the record cards or by searching using the known information and appropriate heading

Monarch	Date Crowned	Age Crowned
Elizabeth I		
	1553	16

Monarch	Where buried	Notes
	Westminster Abbey	Daughter of Henry VIII
		Son of Henry VIII

Monarch	Years on throne	Discovery / Inventions
		Book of Common Prayer
	1 year	Beheaded

**Create graphs to answer the following**

Select MONARCH and YEARS ON THRONE

- Who reigned the longest time? .....
- How long? .....
- Who reigned the shortest time? .....
- How long? .....

Select MONARCH and DATE CROWNED & then check the DATE DETHRONED

Which 3 monarchs reigned in the same year?

What was the year?

Use the RECORD CARDS or a GRAPH for the next questions

- Who was the youngest when crowned?
- And who was the oldest?
- What is the age difference between them?

Check the words in italic in this passage, and alter the mistakes.

*Henry VIII* was the first Tudor monarch and reigned from 1485 - 1509. During his reign *the Book of Common Prayer* was introduced. For the next 38 years *Henry VIII* reigned and he had 60 wives. Both his son and daughter became rulers, first *Elizabeth* and then *Edward*. In Elizabeth's reign *the first theatre* was opened and *Shakespeare's plays* were performed. The *West Indies* was discovered, *Tobacco* was brought to England and *Negroes* were used as slaves. *All the Tudor monarch* are buried in *Westminster Abbey*.

Some could be given text without Italics to make the task even more challenging.

Children could first change this file on paper, and then edit a saved word processor document in Word, perhaps pasting in a graph.

An example of a grid to record the above assessment.

Word in Italic / Mistake	Field names / Heading to look under	Correction
Henry VIII had 60 wives	EVENTS	He only had 6 wives