Tech Week Theme

The Primary Planning Tool facilitates the effortless integration of topics related to Tech Week into your curriculum planning.

You can

- create a theme around Tech Week;
- Ensure your cross-curriculum teaching and activities are aligned with the curriculum;
- generate cross-curricular links to strands, strand units and content objectives across a range of subjects;
- apply your theme to one or more short-term plans;
- embed live links to websites and to online resources in your plans.

For example:

1. Create a theme called "Tech Week". (Fifth & Sixth Class)
2. Edit your theme to link it with some of the following curriculum areas:

Subject	Strand	Strand Unit
Science	**Energy & Forces**	**Magnetism & Electricity** - [Design and Make Traffic Lights](#) - [Flash Video (Design and Make Traffic Lights)](#) - Discover Primary Science and Maths: DPSM Classroom Activities: Planning Guide for Teachers - [Download planning guide for teachers](#)
	Energy & Forces	**Light** **Heat** - [Measuring and Saving Electricity](#)
	Environmental Awareness & Care	**Science and the Environment** - [Measuring Energy Use](#)
Maths	**Measures** **Shape & Space**	**Length** **Time** **Lines & Angles** - Writing Computer Code for Navigation Exercise:

		Human Processor Game - Set up a short obstacle course in the school playground using equipment such as cones, boxes, hoola hoops and balls. Write the instructions to navigate the course. Decide which person in each team will be the software and the computer. Blindfold the computer, and let the software guide the computer to safety. If an obstacle course can't be made, follow the same rules for drawing a house, using whiteboard and marker. - Test and de-bug the instructions. - [Human Processor Game](#)
	Algebra	**Directed Numbers** **Equations** **Rules and Properties** **Variables** - Coding: Have a look at some ways to introduce coding in your classroom: - [Edutopia: 15+ Ways of Teaching Every Student to Code](#)(Even Without a Computer)
Geography	**Natural Environments**	**Physical Features of Europe and the World** - NASA Space Place: Activities for the Classroom - Try the "Mapping the Watery Hills and Dales" Activity. - Learn how the Global Positioning System satellites work. Find out how the Topex and Jason-1 satellites use GPS data in making very precise topological maps of the oceans. - [Mapping the Watery Hills and Dales](#)
	Natural Environments	**Rocks and Soil: Rocks** - [Make and Monitor a Volcano](#)
History	**Continuity & Change over Time**	**Communications** **Energy & Power** **Transport**

		- History of Technology Timeline - Linked articles explaining the featured technological development or invention. or - Alternative Technology Timeline - Create your own timeline for the development of one of the many devices we encounter every day e.g. car, television, traffic lights, mobile phone, washing machine, electric light, pen, etc. - Explore the history of computers - History of Computers: A Brief Timeline
	Continuity & Change over Time	**Workshops & Factories** - The Industrial Revolution - Track the technological developments that created the industrial revolution and/or look at how these developments affected the lives of ordinary people. - Industrial Revolution
English	**Competence & Confidence in using Language Developing Cognitive Abilities through Language**	**Writing: Developing Competence, Confidence and the Ability to Write Independently** **Writing: Clarifying Thought through Writing** - Think of a current problem which you feel could be solved by a new type of technology. - Write an imaginative description of your new invention and how it might work. Or - Write a design brief for your new idea. - Type up your story and add your imaginative pictures or design drawings.
	Emotional and Imaginative	**Oral Language: Developing Emotional and Imaginative Life through Oral Language**

	Development through Language	**Reading: Responding to Text** - Teaching Channel Video: Poetry Workstations - Poetry Workstations allow students to experience poetry in various ways. They also get to interact with poems, use technology, and connect it to their lives. - Poetry Work Stations
Gaeilge	**Labhairt**	**Ag úsáid teanga** - Turgnamh Eolaíochta: Frithchaitheamh Aduain agus Méara ag Snámh - Téarmaí Teicneolaíocht
	Scríbhneoireacht	**Ag úsáid teanga** - Turgnamh Eolaíochta: Ceistitheoir Leictreach a Dhéanamh
	Éisteacht	**Ag tuiscint teanga** - Feachtas chun glantosaitheoirí agus cainteoirí líofa i bhfad is i gcéin a spreagadh a gcúpla focal Gaeilge a úsáid agus a cheiliúradh ar Twitter. - Oscail an airteagal
SPHE	**Myself & Others Myself & the Wider World**	**Relating to Others: Communicating Media Education** - NASA Space Place: Activities for the Classroom - Try the "Pixel This!" Activity. - Demonstrates digital imaging technology with mock-up pixel arrays that pupils make themselves. Play exciting games with these arrays, in which one team's array represents the camera on-board a spacecraft exploring some intriguing planet or moon and the other team's array represents the digital display here on Earth where the mystery image is being received. -

		- [(Downloadable PDF)](#)
PE	**Athletics**	**Running: Jogging or Running over Distance** **Running: Sprinting** **Running: Relays** **Understanding and Appreciation of Athletics** - Use a pedometer app or device to log the number of steps/distance walked/run by pupils during a school day; during break times; during a PE lesson. - [Check out some options here](#)
Music	**Composing**	**Improvising and Creating** **Talking about and Recording Compositions** - Create a Photo Story or slideshow of images using Photo Story 3 for Windows, Google Photos or similar software. Suggested topic: - A pictorial history of the aeroplane, the telephone, the car, etc. (See also Visual Arts suggestion). - Record your songs, music, or sound effects using Audacity or other similar software. Export Save your recordings as mp3 files. - Add your sound files as soundtracks to your Photo Story. - [Download Photo Story 3 here](#) - [Download Audacity](#)
	Listening & Responding	**Listening and responding to music** **Exploring Sounds: Instruments** - Listen to and select appropriate music to complement the images in your Photo Story or slideshow. - Add your selected music files as soundtracks to your Photo Story.
Visual Arts	**Paint & Colour Drawing**	**Painting** **Making Drawings** - Create imaginative paintings/drawings in Microsoft Paint or other computer-based free

		software titles. - Integrate with activities in History, English, Gaeilge, Science e.g. imagine a new technological invention which you have designed to solve an everyday problem. - [Free MS Fresh Paint (Windows 10) download](#)
	Construction	**Making Constructions** - NASA Space Place: Activities for the Classroom - Try the "Keeping Nine Eyes on the Weather" Activity. - [(Downloadable PDF)](#) - Build and demonstrate a simple working model of an Earth-orbiting instrument that scientists are using to study the atmosphere and the pollutants that could be contributing to global warming. Hands-on construction, visual experiential project ("seeing is believing"), discussion.
Drama	**Drama to Explore Feelings, Knowledge and Ideas Leading to Understanding**	**Co-operating and Communicating in Making Drama** **Exploring and Making Drama** - Incorporate some of the curriculum themes in the other subject areas into drama activities, e.g. use the Thought Tunnel to discuss the pros and cons of how technology affects our daily lives. - [Thought Tunnel](#) - [Thought Tap](#)

3. Create blank short-term plans for the required period(s).
4. Apply your Tech Week theme to your short-term plan(s).
5. Add weblinks to useful websites using the 'annotations' option.
   You can use the 'annotations' feature to add URLs to the relevant content objectives or to your Teaching Notes for the relevant subject. In Teaching Notes, you also have the option to create hyperlinks.
6. Embed links to your own online resources.
   If you have created your own resources e.g. worksheets, tests, etc. and uploaded them to the

cloud (e.g. OneDrive, Google Docs, Dropbox, etc.) you can embed the links to your online resources using the 'annotations' feature or in the Teaching Notes, where you can also create hyperlinks.

7. Your plan is now a working document (which you can edit at any time), with active links to your resources.
8. In Preview mode you can filter your short-term plan to view it one subject at a time and so use it throughout the fortnight as you teach.
9. You're good to go!

Learn how to create many more themes and streamline your curriculum planning with the Primary Planning Tool. Click HERE to book your free online demo.