

Party Time (Computer)

Approach: One to one

Level: Year 8

Resources: Macintosh Powerbook 5300CS laptop computer with Hypercard program allowing student to construct a party invitation using word processing skills.

Questions/instructions

The computer is set up with the home page showing.

This activity, called *Party Time*, is done on the computer. Your task is to write an invitation to a friend. All of your instructions are on the computer.

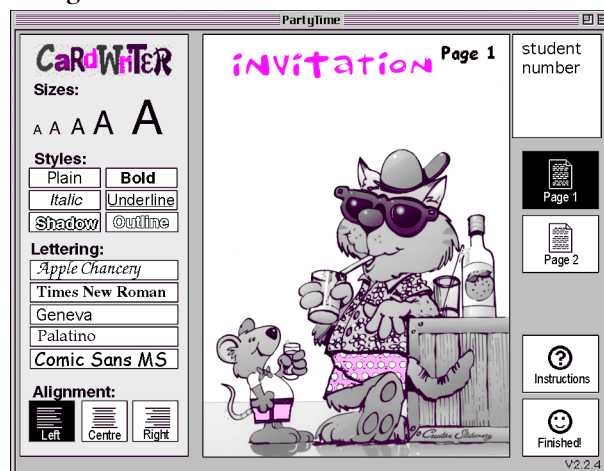
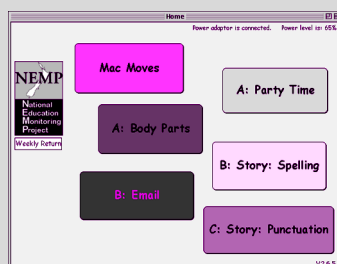
I want you to do this on your own, including working out how to use the computer.

You have 5 minutes to do this task.

The computer will tell you when 4 minutes is up.

You can start now by clicking the button that says PartyTime, then begin to do the activity.

Apart from general encouragement to "try things out", do not give the student any help with operating the computer 'word processor'.



HIGH RANGE

Dear John

I'm having a party at my house on the 23 of February. Its at 3:30 in the afternoon to 7:00 its a begining of year party. Bring your togs and towel to my house at 15 street address. if you can't come can you ring me on 123-4567. before Thursday.

From name

I hope to see you thier.

You are invited to:
name 12th birthday
sleepover

at:
street address
suburb

bring:
sleeping bag
pillow
toothbrush etc.

from:
4.00pm - 10.30am

date:
Saturday 2 april
RSPV: phone no.
Friday 1 April

MID RANGE

come to my party!

From name

when, 4.00 at street address suburb
what to bring, anything!

Dear Julie,

I am having a party at my house on the 26 th of September. it will be a pool party bring your togs and towl

Commentary

Year 8 students were much less successful with this computer-based task than with the corresponding paper-and-pencil task, *Party Time* (p36). Almost all included some components appropriately, but the time limit restricted overall success. Some students spent too much time working on nice formats, so that they did not have time to complete their invitations.

% responses
y8

Aspects included: who invitation is to	77
who invitation is from	25
where party will be held	52
phone number to contact	12
day	23
date	41
start time	47
end time	23
nature of event	79
reason for event	37
RSVP instructions or equivalent	12
what to bring	23
TOTAL SCORE: 9-12	3
5-8	46
0-4	51