

RaPAL/NIACE/UCU Conference Workshop Summary

Learning Maths online: Everyday Maths, Everyday Finance, Helping children with maths

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The presentation gave an overview of a collaboration to develop numeracy resources for practitioners as part of the Maths4Us initiative. The resource is available at <http://learningmathsonline.ac.uk>. The website presents a range of online maths courses for people with maths skills below Level 2 arranged as follows:

- o Everyday finances
- o Helping children with maths
- o Everyday maths

There are two units within each theme and an introductory video to support each unit.

The project team explored the significant moments in learners' lives and sought to create a resource which would help learners with the numbers involved in these situations, for example, losing a job, preparing for children, changes to benefits, and keeping healthy. It was felt that this relevance to everyday life would increase engagement.

It was felt that there was a tension between real-life maths where mostly the 'pounds' are important, and textbook maths where the importance of rounding up or down to the nearest penny is prioritised. This website prioritises the more real-life maths.

The project is open source and so the video clips can be exported and the vocabulary can be changed if it is not felt to be appropriate for the learner. There are also a number of features which have not yet been switched on but will allow users to take part in discussion forums, send group emails and plug-in compatibility so that third-parties can add to the site.