Vinny learns to email

Today Vinny asked me if he could take a photo of the Thomas the Tank Engine book[11]. I asked Vinny why he wanted to take a photo and he told me that he really liked to take photos. We know this because of all of the photos that Vinny takes. Together we downloaded the photos and then Vinny chose the rainbow as the font colour for his name and he wrote it, and then he chose the colour pink to go around his photos.

Then it was Vinny's turn to type.

Bvmxzas vinnys

Vinny is learning to use technology. He has a purpose in mind when he asks to use the camera and to download and print his photos.

Early literacy is here too. Vinny says he is learning to write "Vinny". He is certainly learning his way around the keyboard!

I asked Vinny what his what next? might be. He thought for a bit and he asked if he can email to his cousin Tilly. Could we have the email address so that Vinny can continue on his ICT journey.

Jo and Vinny, 20 July

Dad's Email:

Hi Jo & Vinny!

It's great to get an email from you both. It sounds like you are having fun on the computer, Vinny. I liked your story with the photos of Thomas. Your name looks great with the rainbow through it – I think they are just the sorts of colours you love.

Vinny – I think you should tell Jo the story about how you climbed the ladder and saved the little girl today. I think it was very heroic.

Here is Tilly's e-mail address: tilly@xxxxx

Love from Stephen

> -----Original Message-----

> To: stephen@xxxxxxx

> Subject: Vinny's story

>

>

> Hi Stephen,

> Vinny asked if we could send you his latest story!

> We look forward to your reply.

> Jo and Vinny

Emailing Tilly

Today Vinny and I were looking through his portfolio and he asked me to read out the story about when he took the photos of the **Thomas the Tank Engine** book. The "what next?" for this story was to email Tilly and it reminded Vinny and myself that we had not done this. We had emailed Vinny's Dad and that email was on the next page of Vinny's portfolio, and he had sent us Tilly's email address. I asked Vinny if he wanted to email Tilly today, and he thought this was a great idea. I asked Vinny what he wanted to say to Tilly and he told me that he wanted to take some photos and send them to her. So Vinny took some photos (quite a few of my foot!) then we downloaded them and Vinny selected which photos he wanted to send to Tilly. Vinny and I worked together to insert the photos into text boxes and then we wrote what each photo was about. We did all this on the lap top and then went into the office and transferred it to the iMac®, inserted the document into an email and then sent the email to Tilly.
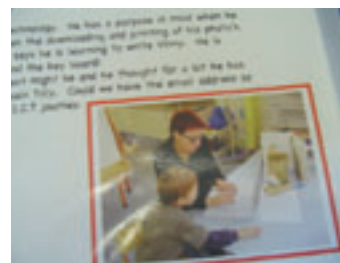

To Tilly

Love from Vinny

This is a photo of Jo, taken by Vinny.

I took this photo of my portfolio. It's about sending an email to Tilly.

I took this photo about a puzzle and a bit of Jo's foot.

I took this one for my portfolio. It's about my bike ride.

Short-term review

I am very impressed with how quickly Vinny has learnt the terminology and skills necessary to use the computer. He asked me if we could download the photos and make a text box, and then when the email was taking a long time to send, I showed Vinny the little arrows going around and around and explained that that meant the email was still sending. A little while later Vinny said to me, "Look Jo, it is still sending."

What next?

Well, I guess we just have to wait, don't we Vinny, until we get a reply from Tilly. I wonder what she will think of your email with the photos?

I think we should have a talk about what you would like to do next as far as ICT goes. You are very good at taking photos now and I wonder how we can use your great photography skills? We have also been thinking about emailing school. Does Eddie have an email address for his classroom?

Jo, 21 October

Date Monday, October 25, 6:54pm

Dear Vinny,

I hope you had a good weekend. It was my dad's birthday on Monday. He had an apple cake. I think he was turning 46. We gave him seven presents. They were: a pillow, a pillow case, a book, a coffee cup, a bag, a shirt and some clothes. Max and I made him two cards and we hoped he would like them and he did. Ah well – a big day of school tomorrow.

Bye bye from Tilly

What's happening here?

In the initial assessment, Vinny is engaged in taking photographs and then, with the support of Jo (the teacher), downloading these pictures and formatting the frames and words in different ways. Vinny then types his own text in the document. The next day, they email Vinny's dad, who sends a very encouraging email back. Later, while revisiting his portfolio, Vinny remembers that he wants to send Tilly some photographs, so he takes several photos that he then emails to Tilly. Tilly responds by sending a photo of herself.

What aspects of noticing, recognising, and responding to learning in ICT does this assessment exemplify?

The teacher in this centre is alert to Vinny's interests in photography and in working on the computer. She supports and encourages him to work in these areas by being responsive to his suggestions and by asking him what he might like to do next. Cameras, as well as a laptop computer, are available to the children.

What does this assessment tell us about learning in ICT (using a Te Whāriki lens)?

These stories illustrate Vinny's developing competence as he broadens his use of technology, initially with the camera, then with the computer as a publishing tool, and finally using the computer as a communication tool. The stories also illustrate the ongoing reciprocity between the teacher, the child, and his family. The documentation itself provides an important tool for revisiting discussions held in the past and motivating Vinny to make progress in his work.

How does this assessment exemplify developing competence in ICT?

This exemplar describes a child and his developing competence in the area of ICT. The stages of Vinny's developing competence include:

- taking photographs of a favourite book and later taking a series of photographs to include in his emails;
- using computer software, including WordArt™, and formatting photographs;
- using the keyboard to enter text;
- communicating with his father and his cousin through email.