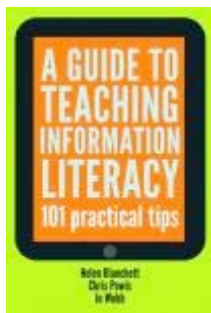

Book review



**A guide to teaching
information literacy:
101 practical tips**
**Helen Blanchett,
Chris Powis and
Jo Webb**
**London, Facet
Publishing, 2012**

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Reviewed by Michelle Blake
SCONUL Focus editorial team

This very practical book is divided into three sections – planning, delivery and activities. It is set up to provide hints and tips to those undertaking learning, teaching and training in the information sector.

The section on planning provides a background in planning, design and theory. This was interesting, although someone new to information literacy training would be advised to read further. The authors direct the reader to additional resources, so this would be recommended for those who are less familiar with the subject matter.

The section on delivery has a broad range of hints and tips ranging from body language to using peer observation and what to do about unresponsive participants. These are designed to give practical guidance to someone delivering an actual session.

The final section is on activities that might be used in teaching or training. Again, these range widely from action learning to drawing the line (which I thought was very useful), to mindmaps and treasure hunts.

Some of the hints and tips have been taken from practitioners and used with their permission. I personally found these hints and tips more useful than some of the other more general ones that are listed.

The authors state themselves that this book is not intended to be read linearly. Rather it is designed to be dipped into when needed. Each of the hints and tips provides an overview and further details, what it might be best used for, what to watch out

for and where to go for further reading. Under each is a section called 'More', where there are further ideas and suggestions that can be used to adapt or extend the hint or tip.

As someone who has undertaken the development and delivery of information literacy sessions, I found this book extremely interesting. There is enough in it to inspire and help even the most seasoned practitioner. I will be sharing this book with my team in the hope of inspiring their own sessions and developing new and engaging ideas.