[](http://www.tessafrica.net/)

## TESSA Open Educational Resources (OER) and courses for active learning

The TESSA Open Educational Resources (OER) and courses ([www.tessafrica.net](http://www.tessafrica.net/)) support the development of active teaching and learning approaches, and will help you to become more effective in your work as a teacher and as a teacher educator.

**Key resources** describe particular classroom approaches (such as ‘group work’ and ‘questioning’) and how to tackle issues (such as ‘teaching large classes’).

The **Subject resources** are linked to the school curriculum. There are 75 units of work covering the whole primary curriculum and 15 units of work based on secondary science.

TESSA resources are helpful to teachers and teacher educators. They show teachers how to link theory and practice, by providing examples of classroom practice through activities and case studies.

## TESSA for Teachers

There is a handbook for teachers called **Working with pupils**. For teachers, the best place to start is the curriculum. What are do they have to teach next week? There will almost certainly be a TESSA unit that is related to a topic they need to teach. Through trying the suggested activities and reading the case studies, they will develop their skills in more active approaches. We recommend that groups of teachers work together to plan TESSA lessons and discuss what happens when they try the activities.

## TESSA for Teacher Educators

Teacher educators can use the examples of classroom practice in their work with student teachers and teachers. It is well known that teachers will teach in the way in which they were taught. There is very little point in a lecture on ‘active teaching’, for example; they need to experience active teaching for themselves in order to be confident about trying it in their classrooms. The **Subject resources** and the **Key resources** can be used to make your subject knowledge classes and methodology sessions more interesting, more relevant and more effective; they provide practical activities that teachers can try and will help you to model active teaching.

When they are preparing for micro-teaching sessions or for teaching practice, your students will be able to use the subject resources to help them to plan active lessons.

The **Teaching practice supervisors’ toolkit** contains a range of resources for supervisors to use to develop teaching and supervisory skills to support student teachers in their Teaching Practice. The toolkit will also help supervisors encourage the integration of TESSA materials into the teaching practice experience.

The **Inclusive education toolkit** contains a range of resources for teacher educators to use to help teachers develop strategies that enable all pupils to reach their potential whatever their abilities, disabilities and needs. The toolkit refers teacher educators and teachers to TESSA resources that are particularly suited to developing inclusive practices within the classroom and the school.

The handbook **Working with teachers: a guide for teacher educators** will help you to get started.

## Open Educational Resources (OER)

All of these materials are available as open educational resources with a creative commons copyright license. This means that:

* They are free
* They can be downloaded, printed, copied and distributed
* They can be adapted and re-distributed, provided that the original source ([www.tessafrica.net](http://www.tessafrica.net)) is acknowledged and they are published under the same license.

The TESSA OER were developed by a consortium of 14 African Teacher Education Institutions and Universities from 10 countries, co-ordinated by The Open University, UK. They were developed to specifically reflect local contexts. The original partners have versioned the resources for their own contexts, which means that you will find small differences between the pan-English resources (suitable for use in Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone etc) and, for example, the Kenya or Zambia materials.

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