



CENTRE FOR

bioscience



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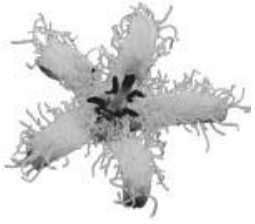
# Open Educational Resources

## Biosciences and UKOER

Terry McAndrew and Chris Taylor

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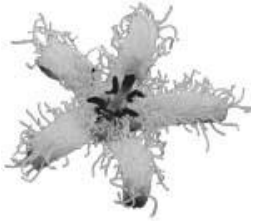
*Supporting teaching in higher education to improve student learning across the Biosciences*



# Outline

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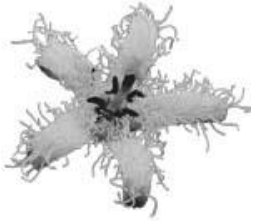
- Open Educational Resources (OER)
  - UK OER programme projects
- Aims
  - For the UKOER programme overall
  - Bioscience community
- The OeRBITAL Project
- Further information
  - Key links and tags to follow progress



# Activity: How do you share?

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- How do you find resources?
  - Within and beyond the institution
- How do you use them?
- How do you enhance them?
- How do you promote them to your discipline?
- How do you share your efforts?



# What is an OER?

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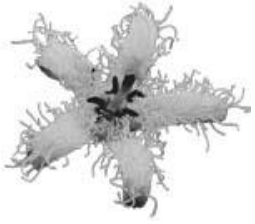
- Educational resources (any media) for sharing *including* further development
  - Easy to find (fully described)
  - Easy to use (context and guidance available)
  - Quality assured (authenticated?) and licenced
  - Re-purposable in whole or part, and shared back through networks and repositories
  - Uses an appropriate CLEAR licence
- Key communities (2009)  
[OER Commons](#), [OCW Consortium](#), [CCLearn](#)  
*“Reuse, Redistribute, Revise, and Remix”*



# The OER programme

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- Initiated by HEFCE/JISC and delivered by JISC/Academy
  - Phase 1 pilot (April 2009-April 2010)
  - Phase 2 (August 2010-August 2011)
- 3 strands
  - Individual, Institutional and Subject (09-10)
  - Release, Cascade and Themed Collections
- Cultural change and sustainable processes
- Benefits for academic profile, institutional profile, discipline profile **and their students**

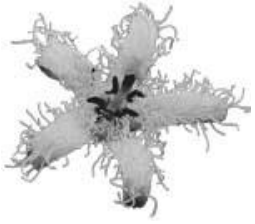


# Phase 1 pilot project

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- A PILOT project to **discover the barriers and issues**
- A 'significant amount' of material for release
- An opportunity for the Centre to provide resources to support practical work

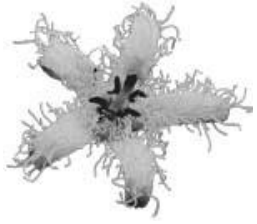




# OER Issues

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- Sharing is costly, but reinvention overall is wasteful
- Resources are ‘accidentally’ duplicated
- Resources don’t count like publications
- Resources can be improved if developed for wider use
- IPR clearance, tagging, branding, discovery
- OER offers a worldwide profile for UK HE
- Inter-institutional collaboration/dependencies
  - New competitive environment?

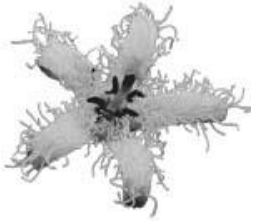


# OER Pilot Project Outputs

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- Interactive Laboratory and Fieldwork manual for the Biosciences
  - Project [web](#) and blog
  - >[140 records](#) in JORUM
  - 200+ resources
- STEM [OER Guidance Wiki](#)
- JISC OER '[Infokit](#)'
- [Evaluation and synthesis wiki](#) (Phase1 analysis)



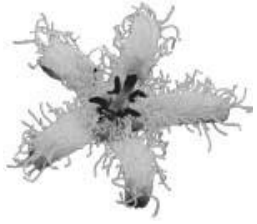


# Phase 1 Synthesis and Evaluation

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“One of the most significant barriers to sharing has been that individuals are **not necessarily interested or committed to sharing in the first place**. Many of the government funded initiatives have at their heart a perception that sharing would prevent duplication and support efficiencies and cost effectiveness. Whilst this is clearly a laudable and sensible goal, **busy teachers may need persuading and supporting to devote time to such activities**. This is linked to understanding and appreciating the benefits to them as individuals, as well as those to the learners, institutions, and wider global community.”

- Synthesis and Evaluation Project report (2010)



# Key Issues and Outcomes

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- Incentives for adoption (re-use) are weak
  - “Poor academic practice” to re-use too much?
- Adaption (re-mix)- is it just easier to start from scratch?
  - Hard to find “useful stuff”
- Repositories not ‘core’ practice – survey outcome
- Learning Technologists role unclear
- OER awareness raised in community



# Ready?





# How do you find resources (and when)?

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I'm Feeling Lucky

JorumOpen 

- Free to anyone, worldwide
- Resources licensed under Creative Commons
- Deposit by members of UK FE/HE Institutions\*

Xpert

Currently searching 155106 resources.

Please enter your keywords

Search

[Media search](#) | [Advanced search](#) | [Browse Resources](#)



**XERTE v2.15**  
Setup.exe (17.0 Mb)

**Last update:**  
November 19th 2010



**Toolkits v1.5**  
xertetoolkits.zip (10.1 Mb)

**Last Update:**  
July 14th 2010

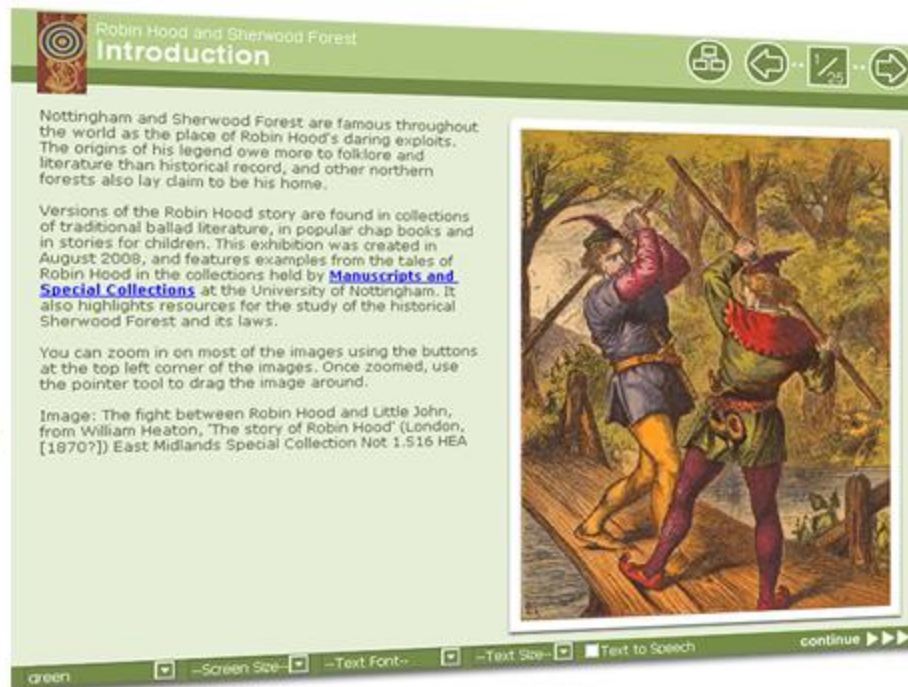
## Latest News

Major update to the Xerte 3 Beta. Download Windows Installer or downloads/Xerte3beta.exe installer.

Xerte 3 cross platform! Windows and Mac versions of Xerte 3 beta now available.

## Welcome to the Xerte Project

The Xerte Project provides a full suite of open source tools for elearning developers and content authors producing interactive learning materials.



**Robin Hood and Sherwood Forest Introduction**

Nottingham and Sherwood Forest are famous throughout the world as the place of Robin Hood's daring exploits. The origins of his legend owe more to folklore and literature than historical record, and other northern forests also lay claim to be his home.

Versions of the Robin Hood story are found in collections of traditional ballad literature, in popular chap books and in stories for children. This exhibition was created in August 2008, and features examples from the tales of Robin Hood in the collections held by [Manuscripts and Special Collections](#) at the University of Nottingham. It also highlights resources for the study of the historical Sherwood Forest and its laws.

You can zoom in on most of the images using the buttons at the top left corner of the images. Once zoomed, use the pointer tool to drag the image around.

Image: The fight between Robin Hood and Little John, from William Heaton, 'The story of Robin Hood' (London, [1870?]) East Midlands Special Collection Not 1.516 HEA

green [Screen Size] [Text Font] [Text Size] [Text to Speech] continue

**Xerte** is a fully-featured e-learning development environment for creating rich interactivity. Xerte is aimed at developers of interactive content who will create sophisticated content with some scripting, and Xerte can be used to extend the capabilities of Xerte Online Toolkits with some tools for content authors.

## Documentation

### Getting Started

An Introduction to Xerte in pdf format.

### Dynamic Templates

An introduction for advanced developers creating data-driven templates using Xerte.

### Toolkits Launch Event

Watch a streaming video of a recent launch event for Xerte Online Toolkits.

### Toolkits Presentation

Alistair McNaught of Jisc TechDis demonstrates Xerte Online Toolkits.

## Xerte Examples

### 30 Second Demo

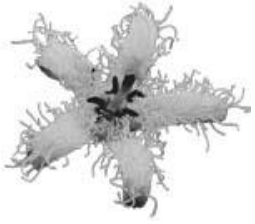
A very short captivate file showing a simple Xerte project being started, built and published for the web.

### Learning Object Demo

A very simple demo of a learning object.

### Accessibility

A short piece that explains the accessible design features we have implemented.



# Phase 2: The OeRBITAL project

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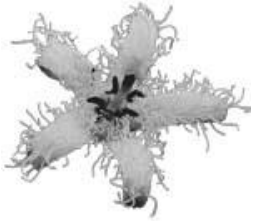
- Collections strand (under JISC programme) based around a thematic area(s)
- <£75k for ‘identifying, collecting and promoting collections of OER and other material around a common theme’
  - Bioscience learning and teaching theme
- Links with learned societies and subject associations
- Seeks to establish the OER cycle but also generate “escape velocity” to key OERs to uncover further issues



# OeRBITAL Project Method

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- Recruit 8-10 Discipline Consultants (<180 hrs)
- Investigate Open repositories e.g. JORUM, Merlot and many other sources/projects
- Highlight best of breed to discipline community
- Identify possible enhancements using existing OERs
- Work with Learning Technologists to explore issues

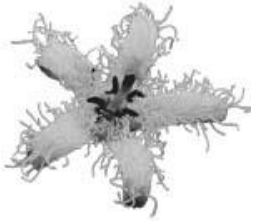


# OeRBITAL project technologies

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- OeRBITAL Project wiki  
[hebiowiki.leeds.ac.uk/oerbital/](http://hebiowiki.leeds.ac.uk/oerbital/)
  - Created by Discipline Consultants (10)
  - Uses a 'WikiPedia' system (MediaWiki)
  - Investigates available OERs in each discipline
  - Generating 'ParaData'
- Learning Registry initiative  
<http://www.learningregistry.org/>





# Follow developments

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- Centre website  
[www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/resources/oer/](http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/resources/oer/)
- Project blog - [biooer.jiscinvolve.org](http://biooer.jiscinvolve.org)
- Tags: OERBITAL UKOER OER