**CRAP AR Y GYMRAEG – A DASH OF WELSH**

**A short language awareness ice-breaker exercise using a roll of toilet tissue (the facilitator does not have to be Welsh-speaking). The aim is to introduce the use of Welsh into the classroom environment in a comfortable and fun way – without asking the point-blank and often intimidating question: “Right, how many of you can speak Welsh?”**

1. Explain to the group that they are going to have a bit of fun with Welsh. The use of toilet tissue reflects the fact that some people think that Welsh is crap. Also, in Welsh, the word ‘crap’ means a ‘smattering’ or ‘dash’ of something.
2. Ask each member of the group to take as many tissue squares as they think they will need for the exercise.
3. Once everyone has ‘their supply,’ ask each member of the group in turn to say a Welsh word for each of the tissue squares that they hold – ideally, words that are associated with their interests or vocational subject area.
4. Discussion - ask how and why do they know these words?
5. Ask each member of the group to spell their Welsh words - if they can - and (they or you) to write them down on the white board – along with the meaning in English.
6. Ask other group members if they can verify the spelling.
7. Check the meaning/spelling using online dictionary and terminology tools, such as:

[**http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/welshdictionary/cy-en/**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/welshdictionary/cy-en/)

[**http://www.termiaduraddysg.org/?page\_id=217&lang=en**](http://www.termiaduraddysg.org/?page_id=217&lang=en)

1. If a member the group can’t think of sufficient - **or indeed any Welsh words** - they should choose a word that they would **like to know the meaning of in Welsh**. Again, use the online tools to check meaning and translate into Welsh.
2. Review the list of words on the white board and any stories behind them – what do they tell us about the group?
3. Congratulations! What have we learnt?

* Be wary of being greedy!
* Welsh is often a phonetic language
* A lot of people know more Welsh words than they think
* Perhaps Welsh isn’t all crap after all