Peter Ransom

I have always been impressed by the mathematics in *The Simpsons*. There are little nuggets in various cartoons, and geometry gets a mention in one episode when Bart practises for a mini-golf competition. Lisa is coaching him and he mentions the power of geometry when he uses reflection to bounce the golf ball off a boundary to get past an obstacle. I pay tribute to Bart in this article that describes three lessons where I’ve used Cabri geometry in the classroom in Key Stage 3. The starters describe the lessons, the main courses describe the pedagogy of those lessons with full Framework objectives and the desserts deal with the resources.

The starters: Bart’s Parts

This is an example of reflection in Year 7. The objective of this lesson is to get pupils used to working with Cabri and to investigate reflections and rotations. I have used this both as a starter to show pupils what to explore and as a class lesson. Start by using the polygon tool in the third button and circle tool in the 4th button to draw Bart something like this: