

Lesson Plan:

What is creative writing?

It is a story, where you use your imagination.

A story is a tale about something that can usually be split into 3 parts: -

a) Beginning b) Middle c) End

a) Beginning

- Set the scene
- You might want to introduce the main character – Like Billy
- Describe the scene and create atmosphere
- Try to 'hook' your reader

b) Middle

- The main story
- A journey of good vs. bad, or bad vs. bad
- The conflicts / complications / challenge
- The things that stop the character reaching his goal

c) End

- The result or climax
- How the hero wins (or loses)
- The release

The great thing about creative writing is that there are no rules, no barriers, anything is possible and everyone can do it!

What you need to get started: -

- An active imagination

Who Am I?

I live in Tunbridge Wells and work in London, but I write my stories on the train.

I became a writer by accident, when my daughter was very young I used to read to her every day, but she always asked for the same story. So I started telling her stories all about Billy Bonkel. That was 12 years ago.

It has taken me 12 years to write 6 books, so it has taken me 2 years to write each book.

It has been great fun making up the names of the characters.

Have a look at the first book - Read Claer's summary
- Billy learns to juggle
- Show the class how to do this

The Bully Henry Satchel
and Brave Billy Bonkel

Act it out – imagine you were Billy
Would you be scared?
What would you do?
Would you help Timmy Tickle?

Workshop Describe Billy's approach to the first cave.
Talk about how to build up tension and suspense.

Children: - Write down what might be in the cave

Read: - What was actually in there.

Talk about what is interesting about their ideas.

- Give sweets to the best storyteller
- Give sweets to the best actors
- Give sweets for the best name

Invite them to write a short adventure and send them to me.

A prize for the best story – The next book – early

Workshop: - make up funny names etc, baddie = Mr. Badfellow or Des Pot.

Writing is fun!

After workshop / talk – have a signing.

1) Teacher's follow up: -

- 1) Talk about Henry Satchell the school bully
- Why bullying is bad
- What to do about bullying

- 2) Shoebox with things in it e.g.: -

A sealed envelope
A key
A toothbrush
A candle
A feather
A notebook
A coin
A glove
A ball of string
A camera film

Invite a child to select some items (unseen) from the box.
Then the class write stories involving the items selected.

Max 15min

Share stories aloud, discussing their structures.

2) Teacher's follow up: -

Pupils pick sealed envelopes from a lucky dip box.
Each envelope has the first line of a story, the children
continue the story. e.g.: -

- I walked through the woods and saw a tree with money growing on it;
- I went for a walk in the country when I was all alone and a donkey in a nearby field spoke to me;
- When I woke up this morning, I couldn't remember who I was;
- In a perfect world I would....;
- When I am famous I.....;
- Yesterday everything changed, everything I touched turned green;
- I found out this morning that the world has run out of oil. No more petrol or diesel;
- I was helping my big brother prepare a vegetable patch at the end of the garden, I found a bag with old coins in it;
- Yesterday I accidentally walked into a lamppost. I can now remember everything I hear, see or read.

Max 15min.

Choose the best stories and get the children in small groups to re-write it together and make it better.

3) Teacher's follow up: -

On the way to school I saw a rainbow. I didn't know that it was a magic rainbow until I reached it. It was like different coloured clouds and I climbed up it. When I got to the top, there was a

- Has your mum even said “Don’t forget to write your thank you notes?”
- What do you think? Boring perhaps?

So you write: -

Dear Auntie Elsie,

Thank you for the money.

Love from

Harriet / Alex

The person who sent you the money will be glad you acknowledged the gift but... not overwhelmed.

You can make writing thank you notes more interesting, in fact you can see how creative you can be in your response

e.g.

Dear Auntie Elsie,

computer

Thank you for the money. I used it to buy a new

game that I really wanted. In the game you have to push water up hill until etc...

or

Thank you for the picture frame. It was perfect and I have put a picture of my friends and me, that was taken on a school outing. It now sits proudly next to my bed....

By doing this the given feels that it has been special and you appreciate not only the gift but also appreciate them. People love to be appreciated, especially by children.

Website Writing Competitions: -

Each short story, maximum 500 words.

- 1) The scariest thing that ever happened to me was...
- 2) The thing that I most like about summer is...
- 3) I know there is no such thing as magic but...
- 4) I wish that I could...
- 5) When I grow up...
- 6) The thing I really hate is...
- 7) There are some things in life that are so unfair...
- 8) If I were the Prime Minister I would...
- 9) If animals could talk then...
- 10) If I could have anything I wanted, I would...
- 11) There are some people you just can't help...
- 12) My best friend broke up with his / her boyfriend / girlfriend today after going out for three years...
- 13) The problem with television is...
- 14) I couldn't believe that last year my parents took me on holiday to...
- 15) My most embarrassing moment ever was when...