



Ideas for using 'Where Do Wishes Go?'

by Debra Bertulis, illustrated Jess Mason



Poems are Doors

Read and enjoy the poem.

- Why does the poet think that poetry can take you to different places?
- Why does she compare them to doors?
- Do you think this is a good metaphor?
- What do you think the 'key' that you have is?

Ask the children where they think might be behind their 'poetry door' and create a list. Look at the verbs the poet has used and how these link to each idea. Less confident children could build on some of Debra's ideas, e.g. What might they be riding? Where might they be swimming? etc.

Encourage the children to play around with their ideas and put them together as a poem which pleases them.

All the Days

Read and enjoy the poem.

- Why do you think the poet has started each verse with 'sometimes'?
- What do you think is meant by the phrase 'palette of sadness'?
- What sort of day might be one which has mountains to climb?
- What would your 'glad to be alive day' look like?

Think about the types of days that you have. Link these days to different emotions - how might the weather/ sky etc reflect this? Encourage the children to explore their ideas and build up a bank of words and phrases around these ideas.

Using this, ask the children to work together to create a 'days' poem of their own. This could be done as individuals or with different groups creating a verse which the class then put together. They could have fun illustrating these.

Not Just a Cloud

ask the children to name the different types of clouds that they know. Look at pictures of these formations so the children understand what a 'cumulus' cloud is.

- Who is speaking in the first verse?
- Name three things about cumulus clouds the teacher tries to teach his class.
- Why are they not listening?

ask the children to lie on their backs and look at the clouds (sun safety lecture first!). See what type of cloud formations they can identify. Encourage them to relax their eyes and use their imaginations to see shapes in the sky. Gather ideas and vocabulary to develop their initial thoughts. Create poems based on what they can see...

These could be presented as shape poems- perhaps based on the shape of the cloud formation or the things which they can see in the sky.

Callum's Homework

Enjoy the poem.

- Who is the 'letter' written by?
- Follow the path of his homework's journey on a map!
- What is a 'tall story'?

Challenge the children to create the tallest stories they can to explain how their homework got lost!

Encourage the children to use their ideas to create their own letter poems explaining why their homework is missing or to explain something else!

Poetry is Everywhere

Enjoy the poem.

- Which of the ideas in the poem do the children like the best?
- Why do you think the author finds poetry in these places?

gather ideas from the children about places where they might 'find' poetry. Explore these ideas and encourage the children to develop their images and play with these to create poems of their own.



Ideas from Through the Bookshelf

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