

All Aboard the Poetry Express

Imagination is
the destination

KENNINGS KEY STAGE 2 LESSON PLAN

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Year 3 Strand 9 – Creative and Shaping Texts

- Select and use a range of technical and descriptive vocabulary
- Write non-narrative texts using structures of different text types

Year 4 Strand 9 – Creative and Shaping Texts

- Show imagination through the language used to create emphasis, humour, atmosphere or suspense
- Choose and combine words, images and other features for particular effects

Year 5 Strand 9 – Creating and Shaping Texts

- Adapt non-narrative forms and styles to write fiction or factual texts, including poems
- Reflect independently and critically on their own writing and edit and improve it

Year 6 Strand 9 – Creating and Shaping Texts

- Integrate words, images and sounds imaginatively for different purposes

PREPARATION WORK

Prepare the Idea Generator before the lesson and use it to select a theme. Prepare images to go with your selected theme. You can choose a theme based on this term's topic, such as time travel for history, or up, up and away for space. Alternatively you can prepare an image/ images for each suggestion on the Idea Generator if you are giving your class free reign! This lesson plan uses a Kennings as the poetic form, but it can just as easily be adapted to an acrostic or other form of your choice. For alternative free workshops, visit www.thepoetryexpress.com.

INTRODUCTION

Explain to the class that they are going to write a poem on the theme of travel. Ask pupils to imagine they are in your picture(s). Now ask for their ideas and suggestions on what the image means to them. Involve the senses and encourage vivid description where possible.

MAIN TEACHING ACTIVITY

When you have a variety of suggestions, explain what a Kennings is. (A Kennings is a poem usually made up of lots of 2-word descriptions - a line in the poem is referred to as a 'Kenning' - and it describes the subject without actually saying what it is. The title is the subject, but these words are not mentioned in the poem itself.) We have provided examples on our website www.thepoetryexpress.com that you can show your pupils. Now, refer back to your board and ideas, and write a line or two to start the class off. For example, if you are describing a desert scene you may suggest 'Shade stealer and water drinker'. Some Kennings use rhyme, but you don't have to. There is no line limit when writing a Kennings, but we suggest a minimum of 10 lines so the reader gets a feel for the subject being described. Now, as a class, write the rest of the poem together. Once you have your class poem, the children are ready to have a go at writing their own. Provide pupils with an image(s) you prepared earlier – these will help get the greater detail that Kennings require.

PLENARY

This is a 5-10 minute activity. Ask the children to work in pairs to read their poem to their partner. Their partner is to provide feedback; something they like about the poem and a suggestion on how it could be improved.

DIFFERENTIATION

To challenge more able pupils provide scenes that require more creativity to describe. Provide key words to be included in the poem. Ask for imaginative and in depth descriptions. Suggest they try to use a rhyme scheme. For less able pupils suggest a place, such as a city, or a mode of transport. Provide key words to be included in the poem. Work in pairs or small groups on a joint Kennings if necessary.

NOTES

This is a one-hour activity. Alternatively the introductory work can be done in class (20-30 minutes), and pupils can write their poems as homework. To extend the activity poems can be copied up and illustrated.

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INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS

ENTRY FORMS

- The entry forms provided in this pack may be photocopied or you can send in the enclosed postcard requesting more forms. Alternatively, give us a call or email us and we will send the number you require.
- Each envelope of entries you send must have a school entry form enclosed. If you have lost your school entry form please use a sheet of your school's headed paper. You'll also need to include a contact name and the number of entries you are enclosing in each envelope. You can also download both pupil and school entry forms from our website www.youngwriters.co.uk and www.thepoetryexpress.com.

Home address information

Home address information is requested because our editorial schedule often coincides with school holidays, causing problems with delivery of both copyright information and book orders. Before providing this information however, we recommend that parental consent is obtained. We do accept entries with only school addresses provided.

ENTRY RULES

- Pupils need to write their poem on the entry form provided
- Only one poem per pupil may be submitted - but there is no limit to the number of entries per school (Please note schools submitting in excess of 350 entries may be published in their own book)
- Poems must be no longer than 30 lines
- Poems must be the young writers' own work

Young writers whose work is selected for publication will be notified by letter. Parents of accepted entrants will be asked to sign a copyright form to give permission for publication and to confirm that the poem is their child's own work. They will also be invited to purchase copies of the book, but this is **not** a condition of publication. Copyright will remain with the author at all times. Schools will also receive notification of successful entrants along with any unused work.

HOW TO ENTER

Put all the entries into an envelope along with one completed school entry form and send to us by **12th February 2010**. Send to: **Freeport RLTS-TLTX-YYSK, Poetry Express Competition, Young Writers, Remus House, Coltsfoot Drive, Woodston, Peterborough PE2 9JX.**

PRIZES

All schools who participate in the competition by sending in entries will receive a free copy of the anthology for their region. If over 100 entries are submitted they will also receive an additional free copy. All participating young writers receive a free bookmark, and those who are selected for publication receive a Certificate of Merit to mark their achievement.

Prizes are awarded when all books in the series have been published.

School Prizes (Awarded nationally): 1st £1,000 of resources, 2nd £500 of resources, 3rd £250 of resources.

Young Writers' Prizes (Awarded nationally): Five top poets each win £100 in vouchers.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Young Writers' aim is to encourage children to read, write and enjoy poetry. Our editorial team take a range of criteria into account when selecting poems: perception, imagination and the 'spirit' of the poem are given as much importance as expression, interpretation of poetry and good use of language. The age of the young writer is also taken into consideration along with any learning difficulties we are made aware of. The young writer's name, age and school are printed alongside their poem selected for publication.