

Lesson Activities and Their Purpose.

Create

To support the learning process creative art and craft activities are provided alongside the ebooks. The purpose of these activities is to get children creating in the real world with real hands-on activities. Working creatively is important as it gives a child time to explore, think, resolve problems, reflect and remember at a deeper level about the learning they are experiencing. When we read we enter the world of the story in our imagination. As teachers we need to help imagination grow as it is an important literacy tool. If children are to interpret a story's meaning they must first imagine the world of the story; the characters, their motivations and feelings and their world. Through our imagination a connection to the story grows and the desire to repeat the experience of reading. Creative activities help grow imagination and imagining is the beginning of comprehension.

Talk

To read and write we must first talk. Children who are skilled talkers become skilled readers and writers. You Tell the Story section and the creative activities in this Robot resource provide opportunities to talk. The observant teacher will take these activities as opportunities to have conversations. A child will be learning what a sentence is, how a story is told, and using new words with these conversations. Talk is the starting point of literacy. You Tell the Story section is the starting point for each resource. A place to begin, to find out what the children bring to this topic and the connections that will engage them.

Read

After a good introductory conversation the children will want to read to find out more. The teacher needs to take every chance to help children use their literacy skills to read, first with support then gradually allowing independentce. It is a subtle dance of supporting and letting go. Giving it a go and making mistakes is vital to learning. We as teachers need to foster a safe learning atmosphere, a place where mistakes happen on the way to success.

Re-Reading

Repetition is important. It allows the child to feel in control of their learning and gives them time to practice their growing literacy skills. It is important to find as many opportunities as possible to revisit the ebook and read it again. Also to revisit work around this ebook like the caption with the children's robots, reading the shared stories together and the group book of children's Robot stories. There needs to be a balance here between repetition and over use. The skilled teacher will get it right.

Write

Writing an interpretation or an extension to a given story helps a child deepen their learning. The screens available in the Write section give a space for shared writing and a chance to use sight words that this ebook is introducing. Other skills of punctuation, left to right tracking, spacing between words, conveying meaning and the story sequence can also be modelled here. This allows the child to personalise the story so they are able to understand it in the context of their lives. Children can use the printed templates provided to write their own story with their own illustrations.

Word Activities

The word activities could be a group or a class activity, something that could happen in a few spare minutes of the day. Play with the word activities often and find as many ways you can to use these to support word retention. The aim is to give as much success as possible. Once the children are familar with these actives they could use them independently as part of independent follow-up work. The printable worksheet repeats and reinforces the learning.