What is talk for writing and storymapping?

Talk for writing is a whole school approach created by Pie Corbett to help children to develop expertise and a love for reading, writing, speaking and listening. Find out more by clicking below.



What is Talk for Writing? Pie Corbett explains

What is Talk for Writing? Pie Corbett explains (youtube.com)

A text is introduced and read to the children; together the class learn to tell the story. To help the children remember a multi-sensory approach is used:

- -A visual story map
- -Actions
- -Using animated and lively expression

Imitation

As the children learn the stories word for word, they develop the use of specific sentence structures and language patterns that suit the text type.

The principle is that if a child can tell a story, they will be able to write a story.

During this first stage we also use a range of drama games to develop an understanding of the story and begin to build up a washing line in our classroom with posters reminding children of the learning journey so far.



Innovation

The children explore different ways they could change aspects of the original text, for example changing characters, setting or writing from a different point of view. They then make changes to their story map and orally tell this new story.

Through shared and guided writing, the children write this new version in manageable sections. During this week, we teach spelling and grammar in the context of the story.



This stage is very supportive so children gain confidence and know what they need to do in order to get better.

Invention

Show what you know! It's time for Superhero writing.

In this final stage, the children use all the skills they have learnt so far to write an independent piece.

There is a freedom to draw upon their own ideas, or they can 'hug closely' to the original shared text should they need to. Teachers use this task to assess how much progress the children have made.