



TeachingLive | Season 10 | Brighstorm | Week 8 | TEACHING NOTES

- Information reports | Tuesday 12th March 2024

Today's Game – Inventing a type of dragon

Warm up the imagination and get ideas buzzing with this creative starter that prepares for the rest of the session. The challenge is to create a 'type' of dragon, e.g. 'a storm dragon' or a 'sea dragon'. Then copy this sentence pattern to say invent where it lives and what it looks like:

The storm dragon lives in storm clouds and mountainous regions. It has dark scales and breathes lightning when angry.

- ***The xxxxx dragon lives (habitat?)***
- ***It has..... (what does it look like?)***

The storm dragon lives in storm clouds and mountainous regions. It has dark scales and breathes lightning when angry.

The forest dragon lives in large woods and hedgerows. It has twigs and leaves sprouting out of its head and wears green scales.

The river dragon lives under riverbanks. It has a covering of salmon's scales and is very slippery to touch.

The rose dragon lives in gardens and has red, soft skin. It has pink eyes, is tiny as a bee and likes to sleep in a rose's petals.

The lemon tree dragon lives in grocery departments of big stores and is an astonishing bright yellow. It has sour spit which is best avoided.

The library dragon lives on bookshelves and is pale from a lack of sunlight. It has to wear glasses because it has stayed up late at night trying to read in the gloom.

The sky dragon lives in clouds, can fly high and have misty hair. It has developed the ability to hitch rides on airplanes.

The Objective – to write information sentences about habitat and appearance

Padlet 1 – This activity is aimed at learning strategies to begin writing a Wikipedia entry about a species of dragon.

Would you be able to recognise a Snow Dragon if you saw one? In fact, they are very similar to the large majority of dragons. Like most dragons, they have a long tail, the body of a horse and excellent eyesight. Typically, they are an amazing white colour which glitters as their hair catches the sunlight. However, a few have been spotted which are an icy blue. This allows them to blend in amongst frozen landscapes and swim in the sea unnoticed. Furthermore, they have amazing teeth made of diamonds and their tails consist of frosted, silver scales. The main feature of the Snow Dragon is that it freezes anything that it touches. Amazingly, they also scatter flakes of snow as they fly.

Would you be able to.....?

In fact, they are very similar to

Like most dragons, they have

Typically, they are

However,

This allows them to

Furthermore, they

The main feature of

Amazingly, they

- *Objective – writing sentences for description*

Padlet 2 – Dragon Information

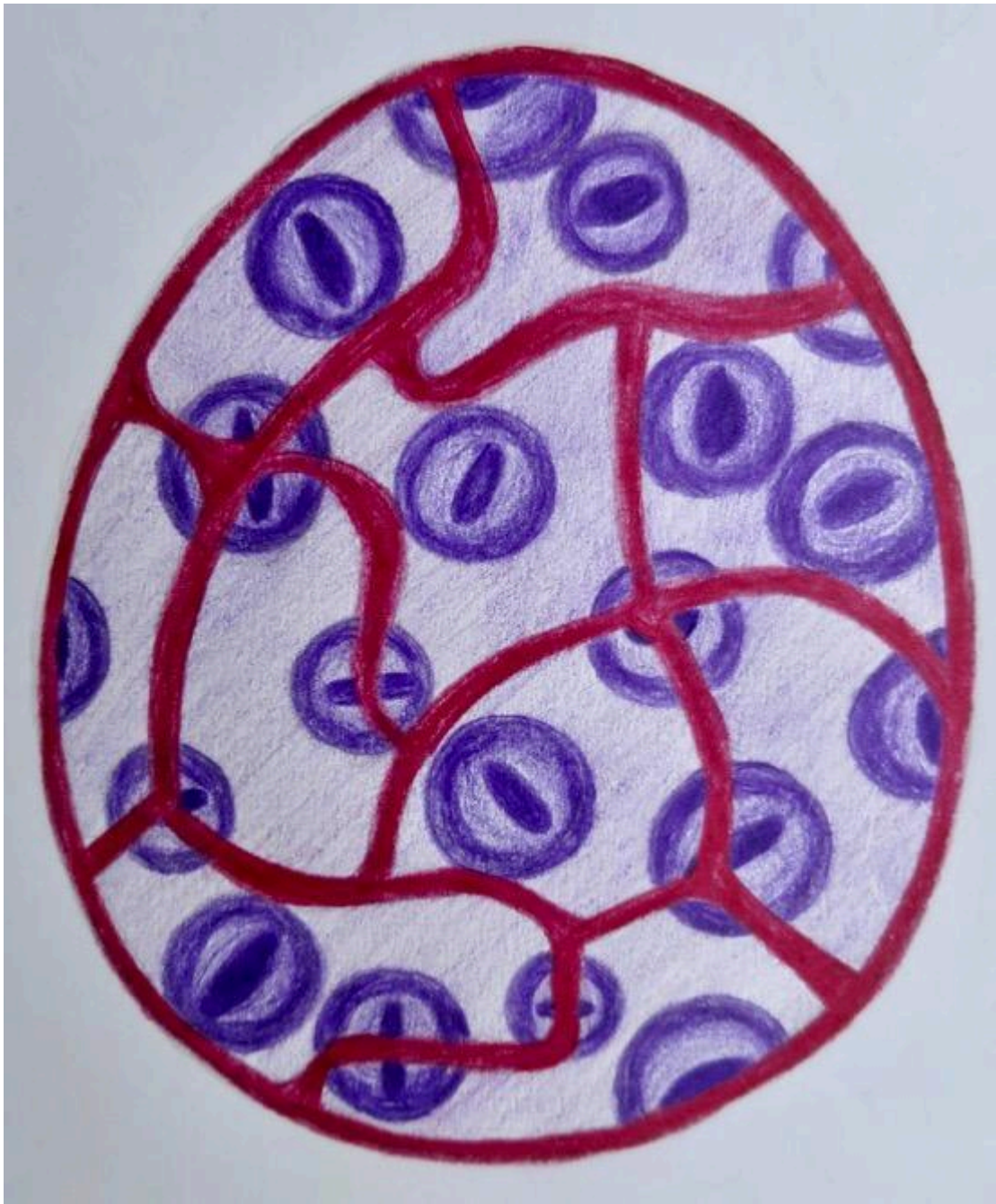
This is aimed at developing information 'report' writing about dragons. Pie will read aloud a model text and the children use key adverbials and sentence starters to write information about their chosen type of dragon. [It would be useful to have this grid in the children's books or available as a handout.](#)

Generalisers	Change of direction	Words to add on more information	Adverbs to interest the reader
Generally,	However,	Additionally,	Amazingly,
Most/many	Contrary to popular belief,	Also,	Surprisingly,
Some/a few	On the other hand,	Furthermore,	Interestingly,
Several	In other cases,	Moreover,	Weirdly,
The majority	Unfortunately,	In addition,	Curiously,
The minority	Despite....,	It is thought that	Similarly,
Almost all	Alternatively,	Many people believe that	Unusually,

Gallery Challenge









Blogging Activity – Writing an information report– the model text provides an example of a non-chronological report about a snow dragon.

Snow Dragon

There are many different breeds of dragon and one of the most intriguing is the Snow Dragon. Very little is known about this variety because it camouflages itself so well that it is rarely ever seen.

Would you be able to recognise a Snow Dragon if you saw one? In fact, they are very similar to the large majority of dragons. Like most dragons, they have a long tail, the body of a horse and excellent eyesight. Typically, they are an amazing white colour which glitters as their hair catches the sunlight. However, a few have been spotted which are an icy blue. This allows them to blend in amongst frozen landscapes and swim in the sea unnoticed. Furthermore, they have amazing teeth made of diamonds and their tails consist of frosted, silver scales. The main feature of the Snow Dragon is that it freezes anything that it touches. Amazingly, they also scatter flakes of snow as they fly.

No one actually knows where Snow Dragons live during the summer months. It is thought that they hibernate in the North Pole, possibly buried beneath ice caps. However, in the Winter they can be seen hiding in forests. If you wish to see a Snow Dragon, then you should wait by a moonlit pool when the snow is falling. However, you will need to keep quite still and be patient. Remember to take some icicles with you, as Snow Dragons love to lick ice because it keeps their body temperature stable.

Are Snow Dragons dangerous? Many people believe that they are because these dragons have the ability to enchant anyone who sees them. Children and adults have disappeared after seeing a Snow Dragon. It is believed that these poor people were tempted into riding a dragon. Unfortunately, if you touch a Snow Dragon, you run the risk of being turned to ice! So, anyone curious enough to track a Snow Dragon should be very careful.



Talk for Writing™

Additional Notes

Make sure that the plan can be developed beyond the model

The simplest framework for writing information about an animal would look like this.

What it is – definition
What it looks like - description
Where it is found – habitat
What it eats – diet
What it does – more interesting facts
Conclusion – final amazing fact

What it is – definition	
What it looks like - description	
Where it is found – habitat	
What it eats – diet	
Blank space for children's own ideas for different sections	
Blank space for children's own ideas for different sections	

Blank space for children's own ideas for different sections	
What it does – more interesting facts	
Conclusion – final amazing facts	

Teach children to include: ‘Did you know’ boxes, Fact boxes and True or False? Flaps.

Did you know?

- Human blood is red, bugs blood yellow, and Forest Dragons blood is black.

Human

Bug

- Forest Dragons hibernate in the cold and icy parts of the winter.
- Bussage Forest Dragons are vegetarians but I wouldn't get too close if I were you.

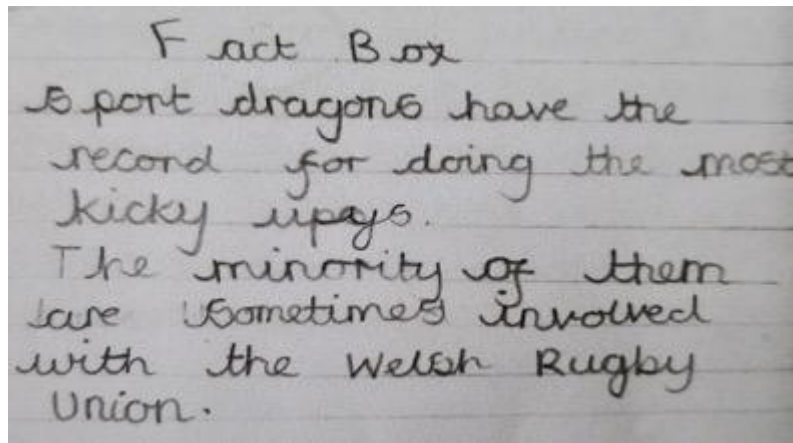
Did you know?

- Human blood is red, bugs blood yellow, and Forest Dragons blood is black.

Human

Bug

- Forest Dragons hibernate in the cold and icy parts of the winter.
- Bussage Forest Dragons are vegetarians but I wouldn't get too close if I were you.



Structure of information text	Plan your ideas using bullet points
Type of creature	
Opening hook – to make the reader interested in finding out more. Fascinating fact for interest	
Habitat Information about the area the creature lives in / where it is seen	
Appearance Information about what the creature looks like	
Diet Information about what the creature eats	

Behaviour

Information about what the creature does

Ending – <i>involving the reader</i>	