



TeachingLive | Season 11 | Malamander | Week 3
Questionnaire Poem | Tuesday 7th May 2024

Anything in **blue** should be read by you before the session – I will also put in **red** any grids or sentences or instructions that should be in the children's books.

- **Today's Game – Question Game** (*The Objective – generate rapidly a list of ideas.*)

In pairs, choose something to question. Within 2 minutes ask as many questions as you can. Some ideas:

Owl, wolf, fox, lake, sun, moon, ocean, cloud, snowflake, raindrop, tree, stone, pebble, pebble, crisp packet, brick, pebble, grass, trees, wall, abandoned bottle, newspaper, mud, pavement, road, yellow lines, fence, hedge, roof tops, windows, doors, hills, park, cars, buses, coat, hat, shoes, leaves, rain, wind, sunlight, clouds, tears, moonlight, stars, night, dawn, radio, TV, lights, conversation, laughter, chatter, sneeze, yawn, child, man, woman, policeman, belisha beacon, zebra crossing, saucepan, kettle, cup of tea/coffee, drink can, pizza, fish and chips, chair, table, clock, watch, eyes, teeth, earring, ring, necklace, footsteps, whistle, etc.

Question words:

When, where, what, why, who, which, how, is, can, has, did, would, should, could, does, did, has, will, can, etc.

Partner A - Does your star hold a driving licence?

Partner B – Is it signed to a well-known football club?

Partner A - Is your star one in a million?

Partner B - Has your star been on, 'Strictly Come Dancing'?

Partner A - Will your star be made available in all bookshops?

Partner B - Has your star made a nest in the hedgerow?

Padlet 1 – Children have a few minutes to complete one or more ‘post it notes’.

I’d like you to imagine the clearest star
that shines like a spark in the dark.

I’d like you to hold this star in your mind
with the attention that you might hold a butterfly
or even a secret that is desperate to be told.

I’d like you to call this star, your certain star.

I’d like you to imagine/ visualize, picture, invent, dream of, think
of, ...

I’d like you to hold...

I’d like you to call...

I’d like you to pretend...

I’d like you to imagine...

I’d like you to wish...

I’d like you to....

- Remind them to extend their ideas.
- Remind them to use accurate punctuation.
- If you have a very young class or reluctant writers who lack confidence, ideas could be co-constructed in pairs or as a class and posted by the teacher.
- Remind children and adults to use the refresh button at the top of the page so that they can see their post-it note appear – as each note is moderated, they will not all appear during the session but will appear later once moderated. *The Objective – to write extended, descriptive sentences that are correctly punctuated, drawing on the locality.*

Children’s Audio – encourage children to listen carefully to the reading as it was chosen because it was well written but

also because it was read aloud effectively. Later on, get the class to discuss why they think the reading was chosen. Discuss the most effective images, ideas or turn of phrase and discuss why it worked. During the performance, children should take notes of any words, phrases or ideas that they thought were effective. *The Objective – to listen attentively, enjoy and reflect on what makes good writing and performance.*

Padlet 2 - This activity prepares the children for the blog post that they will write. Ask questions of your chosen focus.

Does your star hold a driving licence?
Is it signed to a well-known football club?
Is your star one in a million?
Has your star been on, 'Strictly Come Dancing'?
Will your star be made available in all bookshops?

When, where, what, why, who, which, how, is, can, has, did, would, should, could, does, did, has, will, can...

Encourage the children to listen to any advice that Pie gives during this session and to act on it. It might be worth jotting any useful writing tips down on the flipchart. For instance, *name it, describe the detail so the reader can imagine it, reread to make the sentences flow, create fresh images not clichés, say it aloud, choose words with care, avoid repeating words, reread to police your sentences, pretend you are your teacher....* Writing tips could be made into writing posters or written in their journals. *Objective – the ability to write descriptive sentences, making the ordinary special.*

Gallery Challenge – download photos for writing – the free booklet – and the free photos. Children choose an image and draw or paint or use pastels or chalks.







Blogging Activity – Create a questionnaire poem.

Write a poem having reread, discussed, responded to and analysed Pie's poem. [It can help for the children to have a copy of Pie's poem below in their books. Remind them to all come up with their own, original TITLE.](#) *Objective – write an extended list, celebrating the special and the mundane.*

Audio Challenge – If children want to record their own blog ensure that they have read it aloud a number of times. They

should read it slowly and clearly with expression. This could be worked on in pairs or threes to develop their performance.

Final thoughts

This idea is playful and yet is also a serious challenge. It can be met at a very simple level and can also be tackled with sophistication and originality. The children will all succeed at their own level, are beginning to grow a sense of confidence in themselves as writers and starting to develop some techniques alongside a sense that writing might be for them as a way of changing or playing with the world. Everyone should have their imagination celebrated.

Please do not share these notes and models, put them online or use them for financial gain. Please respect our copyright. They are for your use with your class. Many thanks.

The Clearest Star

I'd like you to imagine the clearest star
that shines like a spark in the dark.

I'd like you to hold this star in your mind
with the attention that you might hold a butterfly
or even a secret that is desperate to be told.

I'd like you to call this star, your star.

Now please fill in this survey:

Does your star hold a driving licence?
Is it signed to a well-known football club?
Is your star one in a million?
Has your star been on, 'Strictly Come Dancing'?
Will your star be made available in all bookshops?
Has your star made a nest in the hedgerow?
When will your star next go to the hairdressers?
Does your star want to refuel at the petrol pumps?
Does your star help you with your homework?
When you look at your star, does it make you want to sneeze?
If your star fades, will you need a bicycle pump?
Does your star hang out in art galleries?
Is your star wearing a winter coat and hat?
Does your star consider rats to be friends and cats to be
something to avoid?
What is your star's favourite film?
What will your star say about peanut butter and banana
sandwiches?
Is your star famous for dancing on a pinhead?
What does your star think about in school?
When you take your star to school, does it sing?
Does your star have its own legends?

Does it stare in consternation, envious of other constellations?
Does your star remember stepping into a swarm of bees one
summer?
If your star laughed, would it make the oak trees sigh?
What is its favourite story?
What is its greatest fear – snakes, rats or when the curtain
moves for no reason?
Has your star been taught how to shine brilliantly?
Is it taking its time to travel from Worksop to Wimbledon
Common?
Is it mates with the cat's emerald eyes?
Would it choose a mars bar or a curly whirly?
When did it last shine?
Can I too hold it in the palm of my hand?

Pie Corbett – after Joe Carrick-Varty

Your Galaxy

I'd like you to imagine the most majestic galaxy you can.

I'd like you to clutch this galaxy in your mind,
the way you might a miracle or a wonder.

I'd like you to claim this galaxy as your galaxy.

Now, please fill out this short questionnaire:

Is it empty or over-flowing in your galaxy?
Is your galaxy full of nightmares or wishes? Does it dream?
If it could speak, would it have an echo of its own?
Is your galaxy a foe, or a friend?
Does it smell like the sweet buttercup
resting in the palm of your hand?
Are there creatures in your galaxy
that roam in the depths of its darkness?
Is your galaxy burning or cooling?
How many mysteries are circling within your galaxy?
Can you find your galaxy on Google?
Does it have a digital footprint?
How many lives has your galaxy spared?
What was the last thing it swallowed?

By Autumn S

Your Air

I would love for you to imagine the
coldest, wildest stream of air you can.

I'd like you to hold tight to this air in your dreams,
the way you might with your mother or a cat.

I would like you to call this air your air.

Now please consider the following quick and easy questions:

Is it cold and damp in your air?

Is your air a friend or a foe?

Has your air been taught to fly high in the sky?

Have you asked about its preference
for apple juice or orange juice?

Does your air recollect a holiday in Paris?

Does it remember that visit to the patisserie?

Does the sight of your air make you
flinch and shudder?

Do farmers rest in your air's comfort?

If your air had feelings, would it be happy and calm
on a summer's day?

Would it get angry or sad when it rains?

Does your air have its own religion?

What is its favourite country and month?

What does your air do at dawn?

What was the last thing it suffocated?

By Georgina

What are your thoughts outside your eye?

I'd like you to imagine the deepest,
Heaviest ocean-blue eye that comes to mind.

I'd like you to hold this image in your head,
Like clutching a teardrop.

I'd like you to claim this eye as your eye.

Now, please fill out this short questionnaire:

Is it blurry, like fog caressing the sky -
or clear like a crystal lake in your eye?
Would you consider this eye to be a friend or foe?
How many blinks has your eye done in its lifetime?
Does your eye savour beautiful sights?
Does it remember a specific holiday? Like Cyprus?
What is your eye's favourite song?
Does your eye make strange sounds sometimes?
Does it have over 50 eyelashes?
How often does your eye release tears?
Has your eye ever had a Specsavers appointment?
Does your eye know how to swim? Has it had lessons?
Are you using it to read this right now?
When did your eye last focus on someone you love most?

Neanna

What are your thoughts outside your eye?

I'd like you to imagine the deepest,
Heaviest ocean-blue eye that comes to mind.

I'd like you to hold this image in your head,
Like clutching a teardrop.

I'd like you to claim this eye as your eye.

Now, please fill out this short questionnaire:

Is it blurry, like fog caressing the sky -
or clear like a crystal lake in your eye?
Would you consider this eye to be a friend or foe?
How many blinks has your eye done in its lifetime?
Does your eye savour beautiful sights?
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What is your eye's favourite song?
Does your eye make strange sounds sometimes?
Does it have over 50 eyelashes?
How often does your eye release tears?
Has your eye ever had a Specsavers appointment?
Does your eye know how to swim? Has it had lessons?
Are you using it to read this right now?
When did your eye last focus on someone you love most?

Neanna

I'd like you to imagine the darkest,
blackest shadow you can.

I'd like you to hold this shadow in your mind
the way you might a dog or your mum.

Now, fill out this short questionnaire:

What is your shadow's gender?

Is it signed to a well-known football club?

If your shadow could speak, would its voice be high or low?

Can your shadow jump?

Would it choose Walker's cheese and onion, or salt and vinegar?

How old is your shadow?

What was your shadow's first action this morning?

Does your shadow like curry?

Does the sight of your shadow give you goosebumps?

Can your shadow walk on water?

What is your shadow's email?

How many people has your shadow taken?

Finley K