



# Creative Literacy

The Wonder of Words: Workshops supporting the Primary English Curriculum

Suitable for EYFS, KS1, KS2



*"The children got some really great ideas to help them scaffold their own poetry – I loved the use of the senses and soundscapes to help them discover their ideas!"*  
Class Teacher, Crumpsall Lane Primary

Exciting, engaging and empowering, our range of Creative Literacy programmes offers pupils opportunities to experience and play with words in different contexts. And our imaginative approaches provide them with frameworks in which to apply and develop their reading and writing skills right across the curriculum, boosting motivation, building on existing knowledge and enhancing progression.

*"The session engaged all children and encouraged the boys to want to write and illustrate their own stories... The children were still enthused about writing the next day – it was great to listen to them discuss what they did!"*  
Assistant Headteacher, St Margaret

as  
creatives  
think differently

## Soundscape Poetry

Those pupils who said they don't like poetry will be writing furiously at the end of this magical workshop. Realising the power of "sound", they'll design and perform contrasting soundscapes on a text or theme of your choice – then be guided through a structure that will help them create poems that tell both individual and collective stories.

Longer workshops will see them gaining experience in presentation skills as we support them in exploring the most effective ways to deliver their poems vocally.

**Exploring (according to age):** onomatopoeia, alliteration, descriptive writing, contrasts, rhythm, tone, pace.

**Duration:** 1½ - 2½ hours, depending on how many classes.

*"Each class thoroughly enjoyed the poetry workshops and enjoyed taking an active role in order to create their ideas. Using drama to create an orchestra of sounds for our soundscape poems was fantastic to see and I know that we plan to use this strategy with the children again! Thank you inspiring the children, so they could create such wonderful ideas!" Amy Wynn, Windsor CP School*

## Personification Poetry

What would the world look like from the point of view of a Roman Legion's eagle figurehead? How would it sound to the gravestone that William trips over at the start of "Goodnight Mr Tom"? What would be the memories of Stonehenge? And what might the clock on your classroom wall dream of as it gazes down on all the learning below? This highly imaginative and interactive workshop allows children to harvest the fruits of both their own and their classmates' imaginations as they explore notions of empathy to construct some uniquely moving poetry. Longer workshops will see them gaining experience in presentation skills as we support them in exploring the most effective ways to deliver their poems vocally.

**Exploring (according to age):** empathy, personification, subtext, descriptive writing, contrasts, rhythm, tone, pace.

**Duration:** 1 - 2 hours, depending on how many classes.

**BEST  
Selling  
Programme**



## CSI: Reading Skills

Pupils who tell us they don't like "reading" are always amazed when they realise quite how much skilful reading they've accomplished by the end of this fun and busy workshop. From inference and deduction to skimming and scanning, from previewing to predicting and from context to content, CSI: Reading Skills makes no bones in drawing connections between the everyday skills required to interpret infographics and play computer games and those required to delve into more formal texts.

Specifically designed to support pupils in making those connections between different ways of "reading", CSI: Reading Skills sees them working in small teams to help out in a time of national emergency – because a briefcase containing some Top Secret plans was discovered on the 8.42 to Little Padworth, destined for an Enemy Power. The only clues to the identity of the traitor are to be found in a pile of old train tickets, recipe, book reviews and faded photographs. If "read" correctly, however, they'll allow the pupils to discover who took the plans and why.

**Suitable for:** Years 4 - 6 (up to 30 students at a time)



# Spotlight on Shakespeare

With William Shakespeare firmly back on the curriculum, our highly active and experiential drama workshops are all delivered by professional theatre practitioners. From workshops designed to introduce a group to a particular play for the first time to those developed to build on prior knowledge and understanding, our programmes all give pupils a uniquely "actor's eye view" of the text – and we certainly don't shy away from the verse!

Choose from ...

**Stage Your Own Shakespeare:** one of our professional theatre practitioners will bring our specially abridged "Forty Five Minute Macbeth" and spend a day directing your pupils as they rehearse it. By the end of the day they'll have explored all the characters, mastered the verse and learnt the moves!

**Speeded-Up Shakespeare:** exploring the narrative of a whole play – in as little as an hour!

**Shaking Up Shakespeare:** wielding the power of metaphor by relocating Shakespeare's narratives to well known 21st century television shows!

**Snippets of Shakespeare:** developed directly from the Shakespearean tradition of actors using cue cards, and allowing children to perform iambic pentameter with confidence and élan!

**Seven Ages of Shakespeare:** creating and voicing puppets to develop unique performances of Jacques' famous "All the world's a stage!" speech.

**Exploring depending on age, focus and time):** backstories, narrative structure, characterisation, cause and effect, simple stagecraft, the roles of verse and prose, iambic pentameter, the power of metaphor, theatre history, "hidden stage directions", Shakespearean conventions.

**Duration:** 1 hour – 1 day, depending on focus and number of classes.



NEW  
Programme!



## The Great Grammar Adventure

We've spent some time perfecting the recipe, experimenting with different ingredients and trying a range of ways of blending them together. Now, though, and in direct response to suggestions from teachers, we're delighted to announce the launch of an exciting new literacy initiative for primary schools: The Great Grammar Adventure! And not only will it give pupils a unique environment in which to practice and explore spelling, punctuation and grammar - but it is (as far as we know) the only literacy-based workshop on offer that features a live cookery demonstration ...

Chef Grantham Grant makes the perfect Spaghetti Bolognese - but needs to brush up on SPAG skills to get it on the menu. In a series of fast-paced challenges, children will have opportunities to practice and show off their understanding of SPAG - and to help Grantham stop making such a meal of it all!

**Exploring (according to age):** Spelling, punctuation, capitalisation, paragraphs, nouns, pronouns, noun phrases, verbs, modal verbs, adjectives, adverbs, fronted adverbials, prepositions, verb prefixes, suffixes, connectives, conjunctions, clauses, subordinate clauses, possession, tenses (including present perfect), cohesive devices.

**Suitable For:** KS1, KS2

**Duration:** 60 minutes - half a day.

"The children really enjoyed the workshops. Well delivered and hopefully it will encourage staff to plan more speaking and listening drama activities. A great way to start our Book Week activities and inspired the children!" Deputy Headteacher, Swallownest Primary



## Drawing Out Characters

Working with one of our artists children will enrich their understanding of characters from wellknown books and plays by drawing those characters in a range of situations. Beginning with simple markmaking, and always asking themselves questions, pupils will move on to more considered approaches (specifically designed to appeal to all abilities). And they'll leave this highly enjoyable workshop with both a much greater appreciation of the text and some closely annotated illustrations!

**Texts Include:** My Friend Walter, Goodnight Mr Tom, Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream and Romeo and Juliet.

**Outcomes:** improved understanding of the overall text, heightened awareness of the importance of character, increased motivation towards inference and deduction.

## Outdoor Literacy



Schools' outdoor areas offer a wealth of stimulus for learning in Literacy. Whether it's an observational poetry activity, a reading challenge or a story-building workshop, levels of pupil engagement are always high when they are running about in the fresh air, looking for clues or following a trail. This is, in turn, reflected in the quality of their writing. Whether your outdoor space is mostly concrete and brick or green playing fields and wooded areas, we can design a literacy activity that will use this ready resource to inspire and enthuse your pupils.

**Exploring:** descriptive writing, contrasts, narrative structure, the roles of speculation, inference and deduction in reading.

**Duration:** different activities require different amounts of time – so we'll work with you in designing a timetable appropriate to your needs.

*"Thank you again for your work with Year 2 and Year 4. We'll get loads of writing out of this – and will definitely be contacting you in the future for further work!"*  
Assistant Headteacher, The Beacon Primary

### Useful things to know:

- ★ Interactive, exciting and imaginative approaches to Literacy
- ★ Firmly linked to the National Curriculum
- ★ Suitable for EYFS through to KS2
- ★ Follow up activities for students and teachers
- ★ Whole School workshops available
- ★ All as creatives practitioners have up to date, enhanced DBS checks
- ★ Testimonials and case studies can be found at [www.as-creatives.com](http://www.as-creatives.com)
- ★ For all enquiries or to book please contact us on 0151 708 8886 or email [info@as-creatives.com](mailto:info@as-creatives.com)