

**The Drama Studio**

**Drama Literacy Pilot P.5**

**Mid Term Evaluations**

**May 2021**

**Highlighted Text Throughout Represent**

 = Positive Observations

 = Areas For Development

## P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I thought it was great and very clear. We have good internet in our school so there has never been any issues. Very straight forward with little prep.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

My class although shy in the beginning are loving the lessons. They all get involved and give it their best. They have gone from groaning about having Drama to being really excited about.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

I think the children being able to copy what they have watched and put it into practice is the most engaging part for them.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

I haven't really found any of it challenging.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

I think the amount is great. It fits in well to my timetable without leaving me with odd times here and there to try and fill.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

I haven't actually used these yet and will need to look into them. We follow a set literacy scheme so my literacy time is taken up trying to cover them.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Really enjoying seeing how drama can be taught and used in a straight forward, engaging way.

Additional comments

Love this and would be interested in these types of videos for all of primary as a sort of progressive programme building on the es and os within cfe.

Carluka

## P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I found the resource really detailed. It was easy to follow with videos and the addition of the word document to refer back to.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

Due to the pandemic we have done very little drama over the course of this year so to begin with they were a little nervous and look to each a lot for reactions etc however after the very first lesson they were so excited to get onto the next! They were chatting about it all the time and even telling parents! I also so lots of positive changes in confidence levels of children who I thought might struggle to take part – in fact they have really come out of their ‘shell’ so to speak.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

I think after watching the videos some children like to stick to the story line which is fine but others really get creative and add on their own details. They thoroughly enjoy the improvisation it allows.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

I haven't completed all the lessons as yet but so far haven't really come across anything challenging.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

Lot's of content. I probably drag things out too long by making small sections of the lesson bigger than they are probably meant to be but I think that is a good thing about the resource that it is flexible. You can take a chunk and make it last as long as you like or you could go through it more quickly.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

So far I have only managed the comic strip. I have to say though that when I first mentioned that we were going to be creating some writing from the drama they were excited! Not the reaction I was expecting.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Yes, we are thoroughly enjoying it and I find it is a great channel for literacy.

Additional comments

Looking forward to finishing this first set of lessons and moving on to the next. Thank you so much for sending this resource. It had been a joy to teach drama again and most welcome in our class. The children really have needed this at this particular time.

City Of Edinburgh  
**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.  
I found the resource very easy to use. The instructions for all the activities were clear. The mime ideas given in the video really helped the children get started.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.  
The children have been very engaged. I think the games and activities have been pitched correctly for P5 and easily done in a small classroom.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?  
I think the starter games have been super but the opportunity for the children to explore their own ideas and creativity have been the most important part for them.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?  
Sometimes the children mimed fighting in the Grumpy Waiter story. We talked about it and together made up some rules.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.  
My class do like to share so because they are keen I have split the video over two days.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

Taking the time to do the drama and exploring their ideas has meant most children are keen to write and write at length.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Yes, I used to do a lot of drama at the beginning of the career. I think it is such a great way to develop the children's listening and talking as well as it makes writing more meaningful and enjoyable for the children.

Additional comments

Thank you very much for making a quality resource for teachers and children.

City Of Edinburgh

## **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

The content is very user friendly, especially with having the documentation that is added. This helps me prepare for the lesson quickly. The fact that there are pauses in the video is also really helpful. The only thing I have found tricky is the fact that the website for background music is blocked on our school laptops. However, I have managed to find similar songs on Youtube so it wasn't a big issue.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

The students have loved the lessons (apart from a few who find drama tricky), and they have shown a lot of progress since the first lesson in terms of how to present in front of others. They really love showcasing their ideas and discussing them with the groups. They have also looked forward to giving each other feedback on their performances, and I think the fact that it is a sequence of lessons (eg Old Junkyard 1 and 2) builds up excitement and character development.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

Seeing Julie and Louise perform has been really engaging as well as watching each other. Using the drama in their writing has also engaged them during writing as they are writing about something they have experienced.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Behaviour management during drama (mostly relationships between pupils). They are very engaged during the videos, but they sometimes lose focus when practising the content.



How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

I think there is a little bit too much content to get through in one lesson. I allow a whole afternoon for drama and due to managing behaviour and having to move tables I have struggled to finish the lessons. The pupils are also really keen to discuss and watch each other's performances which is why we don't always get to the end of the lesson.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

They have thoroughly enjoyed writing following their drama lesson. I found that they are more excited and engaged during writing, and have produced longer and higher quality pieces of work.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Yes, I find the resource supportive because although it provides ideas, it is not limiting me to adapt the writing for my pupils. It is also allowing me to become more confident when teaching drama.

Additional comments

Thank you, the resource is great! I appreciate all of your hard work.

City Of Edinburgh  
**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

Very user friendly with the videos and associated documents. However, the music links did not work so we found our own on Youtube.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

Children have looked forward to the drama lessons and seeing the story unfold. They have been interested to see what happens next and two lessons per story has been suitable.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

-Seeing Julie and Louise perform and give ideas has been very engaging. The children have loved watching their peers and performing to the class too.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Keeping children focused and on task has been challenging at times. This might stem from not having a specific drama space. For example, children get distracted and pick up classroom objects.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

I feel two 'Over to You' tasks is around the right about to sustain the children's attention and allow us time to watch each group in turn and take part in the associated questioning and discussion.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

Very well- really impressed with the children's literacy responses. They have been much more engaged in writing and enthusiastic to write longer responses.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I currently have a PGDE student in my class who has found the ideas very inspiring and they have boosted her confidence with teaching drama. We are seeing good results with the children's writing tasks.

Additional comments

Thank you for the inspiring content. The children have been engaged and it is pitched at a perfect level for Primary 5.

City Of Edinburgh  
**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I have found the resource extremely user friendly and straightforward to use. The videos are great and the 'over to you' pauses are an excellent way to pass it over to the children.

The notes are extremely useful to help keep me right with what is happening in the videos.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

The pupils have absolutely loved the drama sessions we have done so far. They have been extremely engaged and it has brought quite a number of them out of their shells. I think it has been helped by the fact that it is someone different teaching them it and not me. I often find pupils respond better (in certain curricular areas like Drama) to someone who they see as an expert.

I also feel that the drama has really helped the less able writers in my class to write more detailed pieces of work. The fact they have created/acted/performed the drama and watched others this is helping them with their ideas and creativity in their writing.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

I think the children in my class enjoyed the Grumpy Waiter lessons more than the junkyard lessons – possibly because they can relate to it more.

They get quite excited when they see the 'Over to you' on the screen as they know it's their turn!

They also love sharing their work with their peers (well most of them do)

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

One of the main challenges for me (and this is my fault) is knowing how much time to put aside for each lesson. Sometimes they take much longer than I expect and other times much less time. I suppose this is just the nature of activities like Drama.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

The amount seems to vary which threw me off a little but that was my fault as I didn't really check carefully enough. I think in general the amount is right as if it's too much they disengage and if it's not enough they don't get a chance to really get their teeth into it!

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

As I stated earlier I think the less able students have responded especially well to this as they have a real context that they have been a part of and also got other ideas from their classmates.

Also, pupils who struggle to get started writing, because they don't know where to start, have definitely found it easier!

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Yes, I am certainly finding the resource extremely supportive. Drama is something I do not feel confident teaching and watching your videos and following them up is certainly building my ideas and confidence levels.

It has also reminded how important it is to give pupils ideas and real life situations for certain writing tasks as this has given them a context rather than them having to use their imagination!

Additional comments

The only thing is that I found the Junkyard video 1 very quiet and difficult to hear. All the other videos have been loud enough.

Thank you very much for allowing me to be part of this. I am very much enjoying Drama this term and I know my children are too.

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East Ayrshire

**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

<p>As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details. Very easy to use. I watched the videos beforehand so that I knew what to expect, and they were easy to follow for me and for the pupils. We've only done the first two so far. I liked the way they were split up, and the way they built from mime, emphasising the importance of facial expressions/gestures and then using speech.</p>
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<p>Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons. All have engaged well. Most of my class already enjoyed drama, but even those who weren't so keen have benefited from being shown ideas to start them off, but with the freedom to add their own bits or adapt.</p>
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<p>Which aspects would you say are most engaging? My class have enjoyed telling a story through drama. They liked the character development of grumpy to happy, and they really enjoyed the fun of pretending to put all sorts of disgusting things in the food and showing the facial expressions of the waiter and the customer for that part.</p>
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<p>Which aspects have you found to be more challenging? Nothing really, it's been quite straightforward. Telling the children time's up!</p>
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How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.  
It's worked out fine for me. I allow about an hour, and that has been enough time for each of the two lessons I've done so far. But I'm also happy to curtail or extend it if needed. My class would be happy to keep going as so many of them like to show off their role plays, but I have been using the half/half so that they can all be seen that way, and only having maybe 2/3 pairs show their spoken drama.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

The only one we've tried so far has been script-writing in relation to the scenarios. I hadn't done script-writing before with this class, and on the day of it, it was actually a supply teacher who was doing the lesson. I was very impressed with the results - having acted their scenarios out, they were able to recount great stories and add in extra details in brackets to give stage directions, with very little input beyond the initial teaching of how to lay out a script. They were very engaged and focus when completing their scripts.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Absolutely. The talking and listening skills are developing and the children are able to bring in their own ideas, and give feedback to each other about what they liked/what could be improved. I've always found drama really useful for written tasks too, because having lived it, it's so much easier to write about.

Additional comments

Loving it, and looking forward to the rest. Thank you!

## **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I find this resource very easy to use as it has clear sections for the children to complete each task and clear links to literacy.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

The children have really enjoyed the lessons and have enjoyed being able to act out their scenes in front of the rest of the class. They particularly enjoyed acting out the grumpy waiter scene and guessing other children's items in the old junkyard.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

Involving the children throughout so that they are responding to your input and then completing the task in partners or groups. They also enjoy watching other groups perform.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

N/A



How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

I think that it is a good amount of content with the right amount of discussion and children involvement so that the children remain engaged throughout the lesson.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

They have responded well to the literacy tasks and particularly enjoyed writing a customer review as the customer from the grumpy waiter scene.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Yes I find this resource very supportive in enabling me to develop drama and literacy at the same time.

Additional comments

Both myself and the class have really enjoyed these lessons. I have been discussing what we have been doing with other members of staff too who are very interested if you do this for different stages in the future.



Fife

**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

The resource was mostly user friendly. I would have liked to have been able to open the video/document in different tabs and switch between. **Maybe with a**

password protected website instead of having to find the email and use the link every time.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

They were very silly at the very start. Lesson 1 I found it really difficult to get them on task. They are a boisterous, boy-heavy class. However, they were talking about the things they learned afterwards and really enjoyed it. Lessons 2 and 3 were much better in terms of concentration. They have really enjoyed not being pressured to present but have engaged well with the presenting options given – eg. Half at a time.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

They have been really engaged with the 'over to you' going from one task to another but all related within the same theme. I really like the fact you give a good example and good models before they do anything. As someone with very little drama experience, I may not have had the confidence to show examples so it made it much easier for them to follow.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

The space aspect more than anything. We are not allowed to move our classrooms round too much and we couldn't take it outside due to the fact you need to watch it on the whiteboard so managing the space available in the classroom has been quite tricky.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

There is a lot of content per lesson. I have found myself spending the whole afternoon – 1.30pm – 2.45pm on this and not even having time to do the literacy task. I would rather have the option to have more than not enough to do the whole lesson though. I feel like sometimes when the children are engaged with something there is no point in rushing it.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

We haven't engaged with all the literacy activities thus far. Some of them just don't fit into what we're covering at the moment. I have tended to use them as an 'Early Finisher' or extension task. The children who have engaged with these have enjoyed them but it would be useful to have resources to support them.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I think it is a good discussion point for the literacy. If the resources were given in August, for example, I would have utilised them in this way a lot better. But as we are now in Term 4 there are so many loose ends in literacy which need covered and they just don't marry up with the drama.

Additional comments

This is a fantastic resource, well done!

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I found the resources very user friendly. The overview was very helpful for planning and linking the skills used that week to other curricular areas or topic drama activities.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.  
My pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the lessons so far. The scenarios have really engaged their imagination and they **have loved adding in their own twists to the scene.**

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

The over to you parts following the example from Julie and Louise are really engaging the children especially enjoy adding speech to the scenarios. As well as this they enjoy being able to show case their scene to others in the class.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

**Noise levels-** can become really loud and chaotic during the over to you sessions, which can run on quite long however this is purely down to engagement and excitement so it is not necessarily a bad thing.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

The content is great- children love watching the examples given and using similar ideas in their own scenes as well as using the acting tips given in the videos too.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

As of yet we have not currently carried out a literacy follow up to the task but I know my pupils would thoroughly enjoy the tasks as they have demonstrated a good understanding of the scenes during talking and listening sessions in the lessons.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Yes, I find it was a really exciting way to introduce more drama to the classroom and the skills shown have been fantastic for creating links to other curricular areas or other scenarios e.g for topic work. The rich discussion that has been motivated through the lessons has shown an in depth understanding of a scene when it is acted out .

Additional comments

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

It was really teacher friendly. I liked that everything you needed was in one space so it was easy to find. I wasn't able to access some of the music you sent on the council internet but apart from that everything worked really well.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

I have a P4/5 class. The majority have really responded well to the lessons. They have come out their shell and seem to be enjoying themselves. I feel it is best suited to the P4s, some of the P5s are a bit older and almost aren't as willing to let themselves enjoy the lesson.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

The exercises where the children really have the chance to get into the character; the longer scenes. We have completed the grumpy waiter and the first part of the junkyard. The children really enjoyed the grumpy waiter. They found the junk yard harder to get into.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

The children are a chatty class so, naturally, they find watching videos for a long time quite hard but I don't think there is much you can do to change that!

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

I felt the first lesson was a bit long. The children lost interest at the start as there were a lot of examples. The second and third lessons were a much better length.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

Really good. I got more out of some children than I normally would. We have been doing the Drama lesson on a Tuesday and the writing on a Wednesday. They like this follow on.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I am really enjoying it. Despite my years of drama classes (thanks to you both!) I still found it tricky to run a drama lesson. I feel this has already improved my practise. Thanks to you both!

Additional comments

I already have two children who would like to join one of your classes!



## **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I found it very easy to use. I always watched the video before completing the lesson with the class, but the teacher notes were a good prompt to remind me about key points to get across to the children.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

My class have really enjoyed the lessons so far. They have engaged very well in all parts of the lesson, including the sharing of their drama work.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

I think the fact that the lesson and video are broken down into small chunks keep it interesting for the children. They also like getting to watch the two of you demonstrate, rather than just being told what they are to do. Using the background music has also been great!

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

I only teach the class one day per week so have not always managed to fit in the literacy tasks too.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

The drama content is perfect. The lessons generally take about 50 – 60 minutes to complete as most of my class want to share their work. I like the fact that the same 'topic' is split across two lessons, rather than all being squeezed into one.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

I have only completed the literacy tasks linked to 'The Grumpy Waiter' lessons as I am finding it tricky to fit everything into the one day that I teach the class. The children did enjoy creating the comic strip and writing the restaurant review, although I felt that I was just trying to squeeze in the activity and didn't really provide any 'teaching' as to what I was looking for. This meant that the quality wasn't as good as I would normally expect.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I can definitely see that the resource would enable this. If I taught the class full time I would make the literacy task much more of a focus.

Additional comments

I think the resource is great! I love that the whole lesson is planned out. Using background music is not something I have ever thought about while teaching drama - it made such a difference during the mime scenes as usually the children would be talking to each other. The spooky music was also great for creating atmosphere during the Junkyard lessons.

Thank you, ladies. My class can't wait for the next set of lessons!

Glasgow

## **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

Very user friendly, everything is set out very clearly and involves minimum planning from my part.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

The children have really enjoyed the sessions and are excited for a Friday afternoon. A few who do not like performing have volunteered to share their mimes with the class.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

Watching the mime videos and the Over to You; they love getting a bit silly.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Some of mine struggled to mime and talk so I took that aspect out completely and focussed on mime. I have also supplemented more mime games as I felt some of mine were going too fast and not exaggerating movements enough. They have also struggled with facing the audience at times.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

Each session is lasting more than an afternoon slot. So I end up carrying things over to the following week. Not necessarily a bad thing as it is good to start with a wee reminder.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

We have not been able to get into the Literacy tasks in as much detail as I would like due to planning constraints. I share my class and work the last 3 days of the week so feel that there is less wriggle room to carry things on/explore.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I am loving the lessons as are the children and going forward I am definitely going to try and slot in the literacy aspect within my own literacy times.

Additional comments:

It would be really good to have some drama warm up games to go with the resource to help support or challenge children that need it.

Shetland

## P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

The resource is very easy to use. The videos work well on the whiteboard; they are easy to pause in the right places and the volume level means they are easy to hear. The walkthrough sheets that go with each lesson are clear and helpful. The free music site is easy to navigate and use and the sound effects/ music work well.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

My class have been extremely enthusiastic right from the outset, though they were more motivated and stayed on task better in the 'Grumpy Waiter' lessons than in 'The Old Junkyard' (some struggled with the idea of personifying an inanimate object and attributing a backstory). They have really enjoyed the drama element and, for the most part, carried this into their writing too.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

The pupils have been most engaged by the mime and movement elements of each lesson. Having this modelled on screen first seems to really help the less confident pupils be able to contribute.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Any improvised scenes involving speech have proved tricky when pupils are asked to perform to an audience – they go very quick and quiet! As noted above, some pupils found the concept of talking junkyard objects and providing them with a backstory to be challenging.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

Because my class are so enthusiastic about taking part, it can be hard to stay within the suggested timeframe for a lesson. Having said that, I think the amount of content is about right. I'm now just allowing for slightly longer per lesson.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

I have been really pleased with the quantity and quality of written work I am getting from my class after these drama lessons. Many of the pupils in my class generally struggle with writing, often finding it hard to get started, but in these tasks everyone has managed to produce something without any extra prompting. The drama lesson seems to get story ideas really clearly into their head.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Yes. So far, this has been hugely helpful and really made me think more about how I can use drama to support literacy tasks and develop literacy skills in the classroom. I intend to champion the idea to other teachers within the school.

Additional comments

City Of Edinburgh  
**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I have found the resource very user friendly. I particularly enjoyed having the documentation to go alongside it and the breaks in between the videos to allow the pupils to give it a go themselves.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

The pupils have loved the drama lessons. They have looked forward to each lesson and at the beginning of the lesson can easily recall what was covered in each lesson.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

The pupils find each lesson enjoyable as they like to watch you both performing each scene before trying it out for themselves. Having the videos has made each lesson engaging.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Engaging pupils with challenging behaviour who typically avoid drama are still struggling to take part in this.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

The amount of content has been perfect – time for recapping on previous lesson, watching the video, trying out our own drama and then plenary. We have then been following up with literacy tasks.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

The children particularly enjoyed writing a restaurant review from the point of view of the customer. We will be bringing in more of the literacy work as we have just completed a non-fiction writing unit.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

It has enriched my literacy planning as it nicely links to the drama lessons. We are now carrying out drama every week and the pupils are really enjoying this.

Additional comments

Please find below direct comments from the pupils:

It was amazing - I like the part that they were putting things on the food. It was something different.

I used to not like drama but now I like drama because the lesson was really fun.

It's really fun to do and they took their time to make it.

I find it fun but at first it was kind of boring then I started to realise how fun it was.

They are good at doing the acting. It's a little bit cheesy.

I think its cool that one of the people changed their voices into a posh voice.

I love how they took their time and they are really good at acting. I like how they use props.

I like that they do the acting then say afterwards what to do. I think it's really fun to do.



City Of Edinburgh  
**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

It was very user friendly- the written instructions were very helpful in keeping track of what was coming up so that I could think about questions to aid the pupils' discussions. The videos were easy to get to (which), watch and follow.

It was helpful having tips beforehand e.g. have music on, clear spaces to add to the lessons.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons. My pupils have loved the drama lessons! They have been more engaged with the Grumpy Waiter lessons but enjoyed the mime of the junkyard too. They have been really excited to add their own ideas and be creative with the stories.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

The Grumpy Waiter story was most engaging because it had more of a story to it (my pupils didn't cope well with holding the junkyard position for a while). They enjoy the humour of the drama and getting to add their own ideas/ flare to it.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Trying to encourage those who are more reserved to share ideas and speak loudly etc.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

It's a good amount, especially since it is cut up into short chunks where they watch, then get to act, and then repeat- it helps to keep them switched on and engaged rather than saving the drama to the end. There was a lot to get through in the first lesson so it took longer

than expected but the other lessons have been a manageable length and easy to follow along with.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

They have been really eager (more than I expected!). It has been really helpful for those who struggle with ideas and confidence in writing, as they have experienced the story and so are really excited to get writing. It has been helpful for those who struggle with writing in general, as they are filled with ideas which they write down, and then we can look back over it and edit it etc.- rather than battling to get ideas out and then check for punctuation and grammar etc.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Definitely! It has really brought out a side of pupils of enjoying writing and having ideas already to help them.

Additional comments

The sound was quite quiet for the 1<sup>st</sup> junkyard video- I don't know if there's any way it could be refilmed/ edited so that it is louder?

## P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I found the resource user friendly (depending on school internet).  
The introduction video was a great idea too.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

My students were a little nervous and embarrassed when I told them about participating in the project. The facial expressions element was a great way to ease them in and I could immediately see their nerves dissipate and change to enjoyment. The children commented that they really enjoyed performing mime and preferred it to the sections with talking.

Performing half a class at a time was a super idea and something which seems so simple but I hadn't thought of myself.

The children also immediately made links to our Emotion Works programme as they practised different facial expressions and body movements.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

We have only tried one so far but I would say the most engaging part was the mime of The Grumpy Waiter. This was all new and exciting to them and they very much enjoyed the background music. The majority of the class began swaying and clicking their fingers as they watched.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

This most likely will be only relative to my school situation and not a problem you can help with. I work in an open plan school which means there's no walls between classrooms. For obvious reasons, this

makes it difficult to find an appropriate time to use the resource without disturbing other classes.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

Lesson content was perfect for me as I had set aside around 50 minutes. This gave plenty of time to watch the video and stop where appropriate with plenty of time for discussion.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

Students have responded positively. One child in particular said, "Was that Literacy? It was so much fun!"

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Definitely. Even the children I thought might be reluctant to participate have approached it with a positive attitude and benefited greatly from the activities. Drama is an area I usually avoid but as the Literacy Champion at my school, I now feel strongly about making more links between Drama and Literacy. The children enjoyed themselves so much it didn't feel like work – just as it should be.

Additional comments

Thank you for sharing your wonderful resource with me. I look forward to using more of the videos over the next few weeks.  
We were late to start as we had a Literacy project to complete from the previous term due to lockdown.

Dumfries and Galloway  
**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

The resource was really user friendly. It worked well on my school computer and the 'over to you' sections were great. It has shown me exactly how to lay out a drama lesson and build up the skills gradually.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

The children in my class have loved these lessons and are becoming more confident when asking questions to develop improvisation skills. My less confident children are becoming more confident acting in front of a class.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

The children really enjoy watching Julie and Louise acting and they enjoy guessing what it is they are doing during the mime parts. They particularly enjoy getting time to practise it for themselves in the 'over to you' sections. The lessons towards the end of the block were shorter and kept the attention of my class better. It also meant they could have a little more time to create their own scenes.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

I have found it challenging trying to encourage my class to ask questions that will prompt the scene to be developed further. For example, when walking through the 'junk yard' I was trying to encourage more conversation to make it fun and exciting.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

The first session was too long for the children in my class but as the weeks progressed they were a lot shorter which held the attention of my class better and allowed them more time to develop their own ideas further.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

We haven't used the follow up activities as it didn't lend itself to the work that was being covered in class at the time. We did however use the drama activities when learning to write play scripts to talk about the importance of directions in a script.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I am really enjoying using this resource in class. The children enjoy it and look forward to the lessons each week and all children are wanting to show their performance too. The resource has encouraged me to use more drama in the classroom by giving me the tools to teach it more confidently.

Additional comments

Argyll and Bute  
**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

Very easy to use. Self-explanatory.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

My students have enjoyed the lessons so far. I hadn't taught any drama this year but they have adapted to the lessons really well and enjoyed learning new techniques.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

The videos have been excellent. I am not confident in teaching drama and it was great to have the videos to refer to. The children really liked watching the videos and having a chance in between to practice.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

General classroom management can be tricky during drama. The children can get really excited when performing but don't always listen. We have chatted about listening to each performance and giving quality feedback.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

The content is enough. The videos are short enough to retain the children's attention whilst being informative so they know exactly what to do. The lessons ideas for literacy have been great. They are not too scripted which is great as it gives room for interpretation.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

The children have enjoyed relating the drama activities to literacy. They don't always enjoy writing tasks but have found the literacy activities provided to be fun!

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I have really enjoyed taking part in this pilot study. I am not confident teaching drama so this has enabled me to overcome that fear. I would absolutely recommend this series of lessons to anyone within second level teaching. As a follow up, I would love to see the videos we are using rolled out as a resource for school to use to teach drama.



## **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

Very easy to access, I bookmarked it and was able to access the demo videos when required. The documentation was helpful and highlighted the learning outcomes of the lesson clearly.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

Very engaged. The whole class willing to participate and were keen to deliver their scene to the class.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

We found the mime and the humour in the Waiter videos to be the most successful as the children were very animated.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

With the junkyard one they needed visuals (i.e. image of a junkyard) to help with ideas and form the old pieces.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

Each lesson is comprehensive and the 'over to you' parts are open ended therefore allows for the teacher to decide how to showcase the groups etc.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

We haven't yet done the literacy element due to prior committed to school plans for writing however we have used it as a talking and listening opportunity to discuss the aspects presented within the literacy tasks.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I can see how this would be supportive as the drama creates a very clear image in the children's minds and helps the ideas flow to recreate into a writing task.

Additional comments

Very good source of drama – pitched at a very good level to encourage this age range to participate and promotes creativity for example to add their own dialogue to the structured element of each lesson.

Thank you very much 😊

## P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource?  
Give details.

I have found it very user friendly – the notes for each of the lesson are helpful and the videos are easy to follow.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

I am very apprehensive about teaching drama, so it took me a while to get started! I have only delivered the first 2 sessions and already feel that I am gaining confidence and start looking forward to my next drama lesson!

At the start, I found it was tricky to maintain order in class and I have spent quite a bit of time establishing expectations in terms of behaviour during the drama lessons (the practice parts). Having done that, it's become really enjoyable to work with the children on their sketches.

Most of the children have felt enthusiastic about sharing with the class, even the more shy children, which is amazing. A lot of the children also look forward to doing our first piece of writing about their drama.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

It's hard to say. They are engaged when watching the videos with instructions and demonstrations, but equally eager to practise their own.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

At the start – managing behaviour. Drama lessons are very lively and active. Quite a few characters were treating the lessons as an opportunity to be silly and take it a bit too far. I have found that I had to stop and re-establish expectations frequently, which was frustrating.

However, it's amazing how quickly things improved.

Also, I find it quite challenging to find time for watching everyone's performances – they all want to show off to the class and their teacher!

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson?

Please explain.

Plenty! I split the lessons into 2 parts plus additional time for literacy work.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

So much enthusiasm! We have completed the comics and now planning to write a diary entry from the point of view of the waiter or the customer. We did a bit of hot seating today and I was so surprised to see how so much imagination in their question/answer session.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Absolutely! Thank you so much for such a wonderful resource.

Dumfries & Galloway  
**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I find the resource is very easy to use and access quickly. The over to you section alerts the children to the fact that that it is their turn to act. Having a couple of starter activities to warm the children up like drama games would have been good as an introduction.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

Some individuals have started off very shy. Allowing pupils to pick their groupings has helped alleviate this a little. In week 1 there were only a few volunteers and this has increased week on week. Even the individuals who do not want to perform in front of others are really enjoying performing with their peers and love showing me as I walk around the room.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

Children are most engaged when watching the Drama sketches. They pick up all the little cues such as facial expressions, body language and movements then build upon these by creating their own added ideas.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Getting engagement from 100% of the class. Some individuals are still reluctant to perform however each week it is getting better and they are gaining in confidence.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

I think the amount is just right for the children. The 'over to you' section is really good and allows me to keep control of the class. I can gauge the enthusiasm and make it short and sharp or elaborate when they are transfixed in the acting.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

We have made some links in our literacy lessons and the children have enjoyed this. It had definitely helped them having a context to write about that they are familiar with.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Yes I find the resource has developed the children's communication skills and they are finding it easier to discuss the planning stages.

Additional comments

### **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.  
Really straight forward.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

They have enjoyed it and shown enthusiasm.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

I like the links to other curricular areas.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Space due to Covid restrictions.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

Fair – perhaps added content for older pupils.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

Some great ideas.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Yes – can see links to other areas and potential.

Additional comments

Thanks, we would love some more !

Fife

### **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

I have really enjoyed using the resources within my class. They have been easy to use and understand and the pupils have found them useful too.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

As a very active and lively class the pupils love drama and have responded to these lessons positively.



Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

My pupils loved to engage with the grumpy waiter tasks. We unfortunately have not moved on to the Old Junkyard stuff yet but it all looks fab. I feel the class will most definitely be engaged by this aspect as well.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

N/A

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

As the focus this year is literacy, numeracy and HWB and working in a Catholic school RERC we only have small slots set aside for expressive arts and it is therefore taking us a bit longer to work through it but it is very enjoyable.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

Pupils have been very engaged with the literacy side as it links through well from the drama and have been able to produce some fantastic literacy work.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

The resource is fantastic and a brilliant asset to the classroom. It is easy to use and a lot of fun!

Additional comments

## **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot - Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

The resource was very clear to follow and really user friendly.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

Initially, the children were very hesitant. However, after the first lesson the change in their confidence was remarkable and they loved the activities and confidently shared their mimes with others.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

My children loved all aspects of the lessons. Although we are confident working collaboratively, taking away speech to do this was so effective and something I will use going forward.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

So far I have not found any aspects challenging.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

The lesson takes around 45 minutes and I have been building on this by using the suggested literacy tasks so probably around two hours per week.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

They really engage, even children who do not have a positive attitude to literacy. In this context, they have such ownership that their attitude is much more positive.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Additional comments

**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot - Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

The resource was very easy to use and could be stopped and started to be able to let the pupils go at their own pace.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

The response has been very positive. The pupils have had lots of fun with the scenarios and have enjoyed presenting their versions to the rest of the class.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

The lessons as a whole are very engaging. It is really good how each section is chunked down as this really lends itself to helping the pupils to follow the story and take in the actions.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

The literacy tasks have been more challenging which is to be expected as we are an ASN school. We have been doing the literacy tasks as a more teacher led task instead of on an independent basis but this has been very enjoyable. Any of the more difficult areas of the lessons are able to be differentiated very easily.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

There is a great amount of content in each lesson. The lessons are very useful as they could be used as an hour lesson or can be slowed down to focus on particular elements depending on what suits. This makes it very easy to differentiate.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

The students have enjoyed the literacy tasks as it allows them to have a more in depth think about the characters and the scenarios.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

The resource has been a great addition to our drama time and very supportive.

## **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

The resource was super. Each lesson gave clear directions and was easy to follow as we put it on our class Smartboard. Both women were engaging and hooked in the children. Having the accompanying skills linked to paper resources was very helpful as a guide for a 'non-drama' teacher.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

As they had not done 'proper' drama for some time they were quite reluctant to participate in the first session. However by the fourth session they were fully engaged and are now asking 'When are we having drama again?'

I take this as a very positive response and also noticed the quality and thought was developing too.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

The children particularly enjoyed coming together in small groups and seemed more engaged with the junkyard theme rather than the waiter theme.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Just the practicality of space and bubbles as we are still following covid protocols in school. Children having to work within their bubbles and our drama/multi-purpose room being out of use. I am hopeful that this won't be the case very soon and we will be able to embrace the drama even further.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

The amount of content is ideal. Any shorter and the quality wouldn't be as good however any longer and finding time within the busy curriculum might mean it is pushed aside in favour of other aspects of the curriculum. I like that is punchy and to the point meaning that I can slot it in at any time. The children like that it is in short bursts.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

To be honest we haven't done all of them as I have a literacy plan set out by the school so I am trying to add it in. Most of the work has been verbal but is appropriate and enjoyable.



Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I would like to be able to incorporate more aspects of literacy than I currently am able to do. However, having the children engaged in the drama is wonderful and a huge bonus. I feel that expressive arts as a whole is a badly neglected area and to be able to offer the children a quality drama resources has been a treat.

#### Additional comments

I am just grateful for the opportunity to participate. My school in particular tends to focus energies and finances on core subjects like Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing meaning that the arts often go by the wayside unless the class teacher has a specific skill-set or resource to follow. I am hopeful that by offering drama we, in turn, impact positively on literacy and health & wellbeing.

**P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher, how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

The resource is very easy to use. The videos are of a decent quality. There is an appropriate amount of time spent on explaining and showing each activity and then time for the class to work themselves.

Personally I find the captions really annoying but the kids haven't mentioned them!

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

My class are absolutely loving them. They have asked every day if there is drama and are delighted when they see it on the timetable.

The children who were reluctant and shy in the first lesson were really keen to show their mimes by the second lesson and desperate to walk though the junkyard by the third.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

They love showing each other their mimes and actions and they love watching both presenters and guessing theirs.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

Miming – hard for them to not speak. I loved it as it meant that the room was much calmer and the usually loud and overbearing children couldn't dominate.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

Perfect for me. We have found that a whole lesson, with lots of stopping and having a go, takes about 55-60 mins. It is a perfect length – long enough to be engaging but not so long that the restless ones get bored.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activities?

We haven't done them all as we are in the middle of a writing moderation block that has been planned for weeks. They enjoy the pictures more than the writing.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

I am finding this really supportive, mainly for the drama aspect but nice to have the literacy ideas these too. I hate teaching drama, weird as I love the theatre, but have found these lessons really easy and fun.

Additional comments

Thanks for the resource – it is very popular with my P4/5 class.

## **P.5 Drama Literacy Pilot – Mid Term Evaluation**

As a Teacher how user friendly did you find the resource? Give details.

Very friendly and easy to use.

Please describe how your students have responded to the Drama lessons.

They enjoy the sessions and are very enthusiastic about them.

Which aspects would you say are most engaging?

They love watching the examples and then having their own opportunity to showcase their ideas.

Which aspects have you found to be more challenging?

There has not been anything I have found too challenging and the same with the pupils.

How are you finding the amount of content in each lesson? Please explain.

I think the content is great- a great mixture of lesson time and time for the children to participate.

How have you found the students have responded to the literacy tasks that follow on from the activity?

The children have responded well.

Overall, thus far, are you finding the resource supportive in enabling you to use Drama in the classroom and develop literacy at the same time?

Additional comments