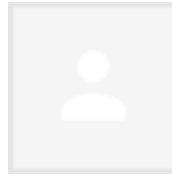


Teacher Feedback Park Bench



- I found this resource to be clear and well organised as well as being well-thought through and executed.
- As a teacher I found it useful as it allowed me to lead the drama, give the pupils an example of what I would be expecting from them, while allowing me to show the pupils what character interactions would look like within a drama scene; despite not having another member of staff to interact with in class in this way.
- The videos were clear and easy to use and allowed time to pause for the pupils to create their own drama scenes which gradually built up to complete a full story.
- The teacher guidance notes were very helpful to allow you to pick up from where you had finished your previous lesson and clear timings showed you where they needed to be paused and what the task for the pupils was at each point.
- One of the biggest challenges has been to find appropriate, royalty free, music that I could access in the classroom as having worked with Julie and Louise for a couple of years I can really see the importance of this in helping to build the atmosphere which in turn supports the children to be creative. The Over To You documentation does direct teachers to a good royalty free website and suggests from it the music tracks to use with the resource, although it needs to be downloaded off site as it cannot currently be accessed from Council computers.
- My class this year has taken a while to feel comfortable performing, with many often choosing to opt out of this when it comes to performing for the class, especially if there was been speaking involved. However, using the Park Bench Over to You video allowed us to access mime and this was a very powerful tool in allowing pupils to be more confident in their role, not having to think about what they would say or being heard. Over several sessions it became evident that the majority of the class were keen to perform their mime and it gave us the opportunity to see some very clearly well-developed characters and interactions from pupils we had previously not had the opportunity to see perform. Through

continued development, pupils went on to add their own speech and details to the basic Park Bench story as well as working hard to develop a clearly sequenced, written story to accompany their interpretations.

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Jessica barker with Primary 4

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to: Julie McDonald <thedramastudio@gmail.com>

date: 24 Apr 2019, 12:26

The Over To You resource is a great starting point for Literacy that we could develop over time. We have created stories based on the over to you Stokelake house resource. The children's writing had so much more detail in their writing after watching the videos in comparison to beforehand. As part of Park Bench we have been doing art alongside some of the videos. The children have drawn their own characters and then described their personality. The children are enjoying growing their characters and can really see the story develop. I don't think I could do Literacy without having drama beforehand after seeing the difference it can make. The children got more confident with the activities when they recognised the format and settled into it. Some of the children who were shy and not as confident soon came out their shells as they were able to recognise what was happening and when. The time length between activities is very good- the children anticipate the Over To You! They are not left sitting for too long and there is enough pauses for them to chat and find out what has happened. Fantastic resource from a Literacy point of view. They were immersed and totally hooked into it.

from: Amanda Carmichael with Primary 5
to: Julie McDonald <info@thedramastudio.com>
date: 24 Apr 2019, 09:21

Pupil C (female) – It was really fun and definitely try it with the other classes.

Pupil A (female) – I liked it because you could see what you're supposed to do and you'd know what to do yourself.

Pupil M (female) – It's good to have this because it's good group work.

Pupil I (female) – I liked how they acted out two different characters each.

Pupil L (female) – I liked how it wasn't confusing, it was clear. It helped to see it.

Pupil E (male) – It made you think you were in a different world.

Pupil R (male) – It's really fun and I think the other classes would really like doing it too.

Pupil C (male) – I remember it's like this....(so no arguing with others in your group.) I like when there's speech and mime.

Pupil L (male) – You can work together with them.

Pupil M (female) – If tried with other classes they'd give you a good review. It was really, really good. They showed it how it was. Showed what to do in the scenes.

Pupil O (female) – I liked how in it there was mime and subtitles and speech. It helped you understand drama.

Pupil S (female) – I liked how it wasn't just mime work. It added speech so you knew what they were saying as well.

Julie, without doubt the class really enjoyed doing Park Bench. They loved watching the video clips and really picked up on the humorous aspects of the drama. I think it enriched their drama experience and, as one pupil indicated, it enabled groups to get into the drama quickly without too much debate as they had all watched the action just moments before.

The children really enjoyed making up their own endings to the drama too – with some hilarious, entertaining results!

I'd be really happy to use this format for drama again in the future.

Audrey MacLeod – Goodlyburn PS

to: Julie McDonald
<thedramastudio@gmail.com>

date: 24 Feb 2019, 17:26

subject: Park Bench Pupil Feedback

P7B have completed park bench and have loved it. They have really liked how interactive it is and it created a great stimulus for

writing. It has created a wonderful scaffolding for writing (which ties in with Pie Corbett's talk for writing perfectly).

The drama sessions allowed all abilities to be challenged. As a result my class created wonderfully detailed writing and were able to focus on developing their writing techniques through the structure and experiences of drama. The resources are excellent and the children really enjoyed their learning.

Here are a few of the pupil's comments:

"It is a good comedy act - I found it really funny" Hannah

"I like how you added in the speeded up version and I loved how we could do drama online" Kyla

"You have great ideas for drama" Morgan

"I like how you started off with mime then added in speech" Liam

"I can't wait to re-inact the story through my writing. I am already thinking of twists to the story" Darren

from: Eilidh Mears with Primary 7

to: Julie McDonald <info@thedramastudio.com>

date: 25 Apr 2019, 13:52