



31 October 2022

Year 3 & 4 Writing Journey - Traditional Tales

Dear Parents and Carers

As a phase, we are focussing on the development of writing and ensuring the children become more independent learners, building their learning across the curriculum as well as developing the children into thoughtful writers, using the 'Talk for Writing' approach to achieve this.

'Talk for Writing' was developed by the author Pie Corbett. It is a fun, creative yet also rigorous approach to develop writers.

Through its multi-sensory and interactive learning process it enables children of all abilities to learn to write a wide range of story and text types, using various methods, including:

- listening to and learning texts and stories
- taking part in drama and role-play
- creating story and text maps
- collecting words and language strategies
- building on their working knowledge of grammar.



At GHPS we are all very enthusiastic about this approach as it brings out the best in the children and their teachers (who write their own model texts for the children to use as the basis of their own writing!) We are all writers together! Writing becomes a joint adventure, and the results are exciting.

The Three stages of Talk for Writing at GHPS

Stage 1 – Imitate

The text we have chosen to centre our writing cycle on this week is **Hansel and Gretel**. We will be creating story maps and boxed up plans to retell and sequence the story into an introduction, build up, problem, resolution and build up. We will be working on making sure that the children's stories are written in the past tense. There will be a focus on ensuring that the children's character description and story settings are consistent with the features of traditional tales.

Stage 2 - Innovate

In this stage children work with the original text. As a class they will 'innovate' the text. Using the original Hansel and Gretel tale as our foundation, we will adapt the story using different perspectives, such as 'what if the Witch was innocent and Hansel and Gretel were the ones who behaved badly?'. We will also be discovering how a change in setting - such as being in space - could change how the story ends.



Stage 3 - Invent

Children apply what they have learnt in a piece of independent writing and retell the story of Hansel and Gretel, concentrating on the structure of the story and developing characters and settings which use the features of traditional tales but are adapted for a modern audience.

How can you help at home?

Over the next 3 weeks we will be looking at **traditional tales**.

The children will be using the information they have learnt during their writing sessions. There are at least 15 versions of Hansel and Gretel for the children to explore, so please encourage your child to read some and come up with their own story ideas.

We ask that you Talk! Talk! Talk!

Ask your child to describe anything and everything that they have been learning about. Read different traditional tales with your child. What do they notice in the stories are they similar, are they different? Who is the protagonist (main character) do they have an enemy? Where is the story set? What if it was set elsewhere?

We will be sending home a planning sheet, which the children will use to gather ideas about the tale they would like to tell, which they will be able to use to support their writing in the invent phase.

This should be a very enjoyable topic – so please have fun reading and talking with your child – we can't wait to hear the ideas you have come up with.

Useful resources to use at home:

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-traditional-tale>

<https://teachingwithchildrensbooks.com/versions-of-hansel-and-gretel/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=as7SINDI5VM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELbcakxFvfc&t=146s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zqe2qn9qAI0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFAlS1DBeE>

If you have any questions, please speak with your child's class teacher.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Mrs Andrew, Miss Hawkins and Mrs Spiers