



THE CURIOUS WRITER

Digital Creative Writing workshops for schools & home educating families and groups

The Curious Writer encourages imaginative and confident storytelling through a series of guided exercises and activities delivered by video, to combine with and complement classroom learning. This first set of workshops, **The Curious Writer – Story Starters**, is focussed on creating the elements of a good story.

What is on offer?

A series of either five x KS2 or seven x KS3 videos led by novelist, travel writer and literacy expert Wyl Menmuir. The videos lead pupils through writing warm ups and provide tools to build character and create settings by using pictures, props and soundscapes. Each video can be paced to the individual needs of the class. By the end of the series, pupils will be raring to write and just need some time to do so.

A creative, engaging and easy to use set of lessons to inspire reluctant writers to have a go and gain confidence. English Teacher, Helston Community College

What do you get?

- A Vimeo link to the online workshops (The package you purchase will determine conditions)
- A mysterious package arrives by post to promote curiosity and discussion prior to beginning the workshops
- A comprehensive set of Teachers' Notes to aid delivery of the workshops and give suggestions for extension activities

What additional resources do you need to be able to deliver the workshops?

- Students will need a pen and paper / notebook
- A method of streaming the videos e.g. whiteboard, computers, tablets



Learning Objectives and Outcomes

Objectives KS2

- To help pupils find and develop an original story
- To nurture and/or rekindle excitement around creative writing
- To build meaningful creative writing habits
- To help pupils find and strengthen their identity as writers

Outcomes KS2

In line with National Curriculum targets for KS2, children will:

- Plan their ideas by: discussing and recording ideas
- Draft and write narratives by: creating settings, character and plot
- Evaluate and edit by: evaluating the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggest improvements
- Perform their own compositions

Objectives KS3

- To get thoughts and ideas out of their heads and onto paper
- Explore different kinds of narrative structure
- Appreciate the importance of openings
- Create a character profile
- Experiment with language choices for different effects
- Plan, draft, edit and evaluate their work

Outcomes KS3

The students will:

- Use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas
- Study setting, plot, and characterisation, and the effects of these
- Draw on new vocabulary and grammatical constructions, and use these consciously in their writing and speech to achieve particular effects
- Know how language, including figurative language, vocabulary choice, grammar, text structure and organisational features, presents meaning, write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- Plan, draft, edit and proof-read their own work

Who can use the workshops?

The workshops have been created to suit a variety of situations including a virtual classroom. They work well for large groups, small groups and even one-to-ones. We have designed the pricing structure so that a school or large EHE group can buy and have unlimited access to the sessions and we have also created a lower, more individual price for teachers' who buy their own resources and for home educating families that aren't part of a larger group.

The workshops are flexible so that teachers can use them at their own pace, responding to the needs of their pupils, planning and timetables. They are divided into sections which can be used as stand-alone sessions, used once or repeated, or can be used in conjunction with others.

As part of the experience of the workshop, a mystery parcel will be posted to your group (UK only), and you will receive a set of Teacher's Notes. The workshops available are for KS2 and KS3.

I thought the videos were fantastic, they were very clear, exciting and engaging. The pupils ... were excited to watch them each day. Teacher, Altarnun Primary.



THE WRITERS' BLOCK



What does it cost?

£125 one off purchase for a school, unlimited access

£45 for individuals or small groups for 6 weeks' access

Special offer - thanks to the Crowdfunder that made this possible, schools & groups in Cornwall can purchase the workshop for **only £45** until the end of July 2022. This allows unlimited access with no time restraints.

The Curious Writer – Story Starters is the first in a series of creative writing workshops created by The Writers' Block specifically to inspire writing in children and in response to teachers reporting that the pandemic has affected students' creativity, stamina and resilience in writing. The idea is that these are fun and can be delivered digitally and simply in the learning environment.

The next workshop is a standalone session by writer and storyteller **Anna Maria Murphy** (Kneehigh Theatre, Radio 4) and focusses on descriptive language. It will be launched early 2022.

About The Writers' Block

The Writers' Block is Cornwall's Creative Writing Centre where we champion the writer in everyone. With innovation and creativity at our heart, The Writers' Block is both a physical place to write as well as a unique approach to developing confidence and skills in writing for everyone.

Currently between spaces, but usually based in the Redruth area, we work with children, adults, schools, families, communities, emerging writers and everyone in between. We have after school clubs, Immersive storytelling experiences, writing workshops & masterclasses for adults, education programmes, sharing events, teacher CPD, early years sessions – something to offer everyone. Writing is hard, but with new tools and techniques combined with the hidden wonders of The Writers' Block, everyone can find their story.

www.thewritersblock.org.uk

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For more info & sales contact helen.reynolds@keap.org.uk

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