

'Linccs Takes One Picture' project

Background / aims :

Encouraging teachers to adopt a flexible, creative and integrated approach to teaching across the curriculum the National Gallery's 'Take One Picture' scheme 2005 was used as a springboard. The project aimed to develop more positive attitudes to writing, enhance thinking and investigative skills by 'reading' and exploring one picture in depth and enrich the educational experience of pupils by working in collaboration with outside agencies.



What happened:

In the Autumn Term class teachers involved attended a one day Inset at the National Gallery. Over the course of the year the Arts and Literacy consultants worked in the schools developing pupils' drama and writing skills, focusing on a different written genre in each primary but retaining the initial stimulus of the 'one' picture

The outcomes were celebrated in an impressive week long exhibition held at Haverstock School. The cross curricular work comprised film and animations, play scripts, collages, board games, storybooks, poetry, painting and radio work.

Many outside agencies worked alongside the pupils and teachers to support this exciting and innovative work. An expert storyteller ran workshops in each school, cutting edge digital work was created at the CLC, an artist was employed to help the pupils execute their ideas, and one school was thrilled to work with professionals from Camden Central Radio.

Secondary pupils acted as exhibition guides during the week helping hundreds of visitors to explore and participate fully in the exhibition.



Impact / outcomes:

The writing skills of over 380 pupils from Years 2-6 were developed in the context of pupil's authorship. Motivation and affective engagement towards the writing task increased with pupils viewing themselves as 'successful' writers. *'Children previously incapable of expressing themselves in writing, have found the confidence and inspiration to tackle text.'* Yr3 teacher. *'I enjoyed all the writing and looking at pictures. Feeling the shell helped me describe the Sea God.'* Yr 5 pupil. The confidence and competence with which the secondary students approached their role as 'guides' ensured that the primary pupils enjoyed a positive experience of secondary school, prompting this Yr 3 response *'I love this school because I liked everything.'* The process and final exhibition provided a platform for sharing effective cross curricular approaches, impacting upon subsequent curriculum planning.

The National Gallery selected excerpts from one of the films and interviews with the linccs consultants to use in their own exhibition and these were included in a National Gallery DVD used for nationwide CPD.

Pupils and teachers alike took great pride and delight knowing that their hard work had real purpose by reaching a wider audience. *'An amazing range of skills and talent. Fantastic.'* Head of SIS.

Examples of work can be viewed on www.linccs-camden.org.uk



Considerations:

The most outstanding 'work' was evidenced when teachers gave time, full commitment and a willingness to embrace a creative and flexible approach. Both pupils and teachers were able to learn, enjoy and achieve. Practicalities of a cross - school exhibition needs thorough co- ordination, time and planning.