

# Developing Literacy At Bassaleg School

15.10.12

Mr M Maughan

# True or False

- I know what literacy is.
- My child knows what reading is.
- Spelling and grammar are the main points of literacy.
- If everyone could spell and write accurately, we would have no literacy problems.
- I know how to help my child develop their literacy skills.

Every Saturday night, four good friends get together. When Jerry, Mike and Pat arrived, Karen was in her living room writing some notes. She quickly gathered the cards and stood up to greet her friends at the door. They followed her into the living room, but as usual they couldn't agree what to play. Jerry eventually took a stand and set things up. Finally they began to play. Karen's recorder filled the room with soft and pleasant music. Early in the evening, Mike noticed Pat's hand and the many diamonds. As the night progressed the tempo of the play increased. Finally a lull in the activities occurred. Taking advantage of this, Jerry pondered the arrangement in front of him. Mike interrupted Jerry's reverie and said, "Let's hear the score." They listened carefully and commented on their performance. When all comments were heard, exhausted but happy, Karen's friends went home.

# This is what reading is ...

- Activate prior knowledge
- Clarify new vocabulary
- Preview texts
- Set a purpose
- Monitor understandings
- Adjust misunderstandings
- Identify information
- Extract information
- Recall information
- Reflect on information
- Predicting
- Connecting
- Comparing
- Inferring
- Synthesising
- Visualising
- Self questioning
- Skimming
- Scanning
- Determining importance
- Summarising of paraphrasing
- Reading on
- Adjusting reading rate
- Sounding out
- Chunking
- Using analogy
- Consulting a reference

# Strategies to develop literacy

- Exercises which are quick and easy.
- Tasks which draw attention to the different components of reading.
- Allow learners to see those components rather than assume that they know them.
- Point out each component of literacy and teach it explicitly with the aim that children will do it all themselves.

# Alternative Headings

- Helps us identify and extract information.
- Makes us consider what we think the most important parts of a text are.
- Makes us query why we have been given information and prioritise its importance.

- What happened next was both unexpected and extremely unpleasant. Lieutenant Kotler grew very angry with Pavel and no one – not Bruno, not Gretel, not Mother and not even Father stepped in to stop him doing what he did next even though none of them could watch. Even though it made Bruno cry and Gretel grow pale.

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## Mixture or compound?

If you mix cold hydrogen and oxygen gases together, you just get a simple mixture. Both gases keep their properties.

But all it takes is a spark or a flame to set off an explosion in the mixture. A chemical reaction takes place. The hydrogen and oxygen combine chemically to make a new compound, hydrogen oxide – water!

When elements combine, they lose their own properties and form a new compound with a new set of properties.

1 Compare the properties of water with the properties of hydrogen and oxygen.



# Reading Plan

- A strategy to help understand why we are reading a certain text and the way that the text is organised.
- A reading plan helps us preview a text and set a purpose.
- Readers use questions to help them develop an understanding of a text before they start reading, during reading and after they have read.

| Reading steps                                 | My thoughts   |
|---|---|
| I am reading this text in order to ...        | Learn about Macbeth<br>Understand the water cycle<br>Learn Welsh vocabulary |
| Step 1: skim to get a general picture         | Pictures show main parts<br>Subheadings guide me to key ideas               |
| What are the most important words?            |   |
| Are there any trick words? What do they mean? |   |

# Create a bank of prompts

- Why am I reading this?
- What do I hope to find out?
- Skim the text to get a general idea
- What are the main words?
- Draw a picture of what is happening
- What is the one most important sentence?
- What could another title for this page be?
- Re read the text to check if my first ideas were right.

# Strategies to get unstuck

- “The man strolled bliply down the street, humming gently to himself.”
- What does ‘bliply’ mean?
- How do you know?

# Vocabulary chart

| Word | Sounds like it could mean ... | Reading on makes me think ... | Other clues in the sentence makes me think ... | A dictionary suggests |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
|      |                               |                               |  |                       |
|      |                               |                               |  |                       |

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