

Transcript for literacy lesson 4

Hello Year 2. Welcome to the fourth lesson of our literacy learning this week. I hope you've had a nice time doing the activities so far, I hope you've been feeling proud of the work you've been doing – I'm sure you've been doing some fantastic things at home and I would have loved to of seen them.

So today, we're going to moving away from opinion pieces of writing and we're going to be moving towards thinking about how we would describe a character. Now when we talk about describing we know that we have to use those adjectives. Adjectives are key to describe a character. If we don't use adjectives then we're not doing a very good job at describing anything, are we? Think back to when we were describing the Great Fire of London before half term, we did loads of work to describe the fire of London. And we thought it was not just about what the fire looked like, it was about what the fire sounded like, smelt like, tasted like, what it felt like, as well as what it looked like, ok? So when you're describing things it's not just about what they look like but about those other things too.

So, you are going to have a go at describing some of the characters, or a character from 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. On the website there are some resources that are called 'character descriptions'. There is one for Mr. or Mrs. Grinling, there is one for Hamish and there is one for the seagulls. You choose, which character you would like to describe, it can be up to you. You can choose whether you'd like to describe, Mr. Grinling, Mrs. Grinling, Hamish the cat, or the seagulls, ok? Choose one of the resources on the website and you'll see an outline of a picture of those characters. Today, what I'd like you to do is add detail to that picture to make it look like the character. So, at the moment the resource for Mr. or Mrs. Grinling is just a person, with no facial features, none of their outfits, no hair or anything, it's just an outline of a person. So what I'd like you to do before you do any writing is to make that picture look like the character you're describing. Same with Hamish, at the moment it's just an outline of a cat, it doesn't have any of the fur or the face, so you need to draw the detail of that character. And same with the seagull, it's just a seagull on its own, it's just an outline, it hasn't got the beak, it hasn't got the feathers, it hasn't got the eyes or anything like that so the first thing for you to do is to try and make the template of that character look like the character from the story.

Once you've made the character look like the character you want to describe, around the outside of the picture I want you to think of as many adjectives as you can and just jot them around the picture. So, today we're just gathering our ideas and then tomorrow your job is to write your ideas in a character description. So, let me show you the one I've done, I chose to describe the seagulls. Remember, whatever character you choose today is what you're going to write about tomorrow. So you can't describe the seagulls today and then right about Hamish tomorrow because you've got all the ideas for the seagulls. So if you want to write about Hamish tomorrow, do the description of Hamish today, ok?

So here's mine, that's my piece of work. And here I've added the detail to the outline of the seagull, so I've added the beak and his eyes and the feather and the dark feathers of his tail, on his tummy and his wings and you can see I've used felt tip pen

to jot down as many adjectives as I can. Now, in my opinion I don't like the seagulls. I don't think it was a very kind thing to do, to steal that lunch and in general, I'm not a big fan of seagulls anyway. I think that they are a bit pesky in real life too! So, my adjectives, maybe, think about my opinion too because I've described them in a way that isn't very nice. So if you're doing the seagulls, you might want to think about whether you think the seagulls are nice or not, your adjectives will be linked to that won't they.

So my first adjective was that I think that seagulls are dirty, ugly, I think that the seagulls were bullies, then I've thought about what they look like, they're white and grey and orange. Greedy, they were very greedy. They were nasty, pesky, worthless, I've thought of a word with a suffix on the end, haven't I? Worthless. Rude, mean, lazy and brazen. That one's from the story isn't it, the word brazen, that adjective. Maybe you can think of some adjectives from the story? If you were describing Mr. Grinling, you would want to use the word 'industrious' because that's from the story. Ok? So that's my bit of work here, I've drawn detail onto my character and then around the edge of the picture I've added lots of adjectives that I can use for writing tomorrow, ok?

Alright, I will leave you to it. Enjoy drawing your characters and then try and think of as many adjectives you can to describe that character. Remember the more work that you do today, the more ideas you'll have for tomorrow's writing. Fantastic! I'll see you tomorrow for our last lesson. Bye!