

This Is Us! Poetry Project

This is Us! is the perfect celebration of culture, diversity and heritage literacy project. The mix of backgrounds, cultures and memories that go into making your class is something to be reflected on and celebrated in this project, which can help encourage an accepting and global mindset in your class whilst celebrating the individuals that come together to make community. You'll also get to know your class and their backgrounds while absorbing them with writing poetry, with support from accredited poet, Joseph Coelho.

Before this unit starts, you may want to send homework sheet out to collect favourite poems from their culture at home. It is also important that the teacher is aware of any potentially sensitive issues in children's backgrounds.

The project covers curriculum objectives from PSHE, British Values, Geography as well as ICT and literacy. The final recorded poem will be a culmination of all of the children's stories, a real celebration of diversity and what makes your class unique. This can be easily celebrated in assembly, at your own Poetry Slam (see lesson 10) and online, just tag @LitFilmFest and we'll send your class a 'well done'!

LitFilmFest will add shared videos to the [online playlist](#), so do [email](#) or [tweet](#) us to let us know. We may even send your students a personal well done from the LitFilmFest team!

To see what your children's final video might look like, watch an [example video](#).

	Lesson	Content summary	Literacy aims
1	Introduction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch project introduction video 2. Share and respond to poem 1 - about where you are from (KS2 compare I remember Thomas Hood?) 3. Reflect on their backgrounds and stories - choose 5 areas they want to find out about each other's backgrounds (e.g. food, weather, play, family, language, religion, sports, possessions, education, values). 4. They fill in questionnaires with their partners to find out more about their different experiences. 	Read and enjoy Initial reactions to poem Similes and metaphors
2	Study poem	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share poem 2/3 - memories/family 2. Identify poetic devices and compare 3. Comment on likes and dislikes 	Analyse features and ask questions
3	Write own poem	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write a poem based on research from lesson 1 of a friend's background 2. Pull out key words to create own poems. 	Shared and independent writing, using poetic devices, planning and drafting
4	Edit and improve; Study description poetic devices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss the poems already studied 2. Study a range of poems and identify poetic devices 3. Edit and improve their own work 4. Further edit and improve their own work 	Edit and improve: Analyse poetic devices: (alliteration and repetition, no rhyme, descriptive, simile/metaphor, personification, some rhyme)
5	Plan and draft poetry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate on an opening to a shared class poem about their own background 2. Plan and explore ideas for individual poems based on the poetic devices studied 3. Make a plan for writing poetry, include keywords 	Shared and independent writing, using poetic devices, planning and drafting

6	Write and edit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch video on how to write their own poem 2. Write own poem using poetic devices 3. Edit with a partner 	Writing individual poems, including poetic devices; editing
7	Rehearse performing aloud with intonation and expression	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Groups chose lines to be used in final collaborative class poems 2. Rehearse and give feedback 	Performance technique: using appropriate intonation, volume, and movement so meaning is clear
8	Filming to support a collaborative performance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyse the video and discuss how poems are performed successfully 2. Rehearse, give feedback 3. Perform and record poetry performances 	Group work on oral performance and rehearsal. Planning, filming and photographing related to a poem
9	Poetry Slam! (optional)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use poetic devices to write their own poem 2. Groups choose lines to be used in a final collaborative class poem 	Preparing poems to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action
10	Further challenge (optional)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study Haikus 2. Independent writing of own poems; peer editing 	Shared planning, independent writing, using poetic devices, drafting, writing and peer editing.

To see what your final video might look like, watch this [example video](#). It will be a recording of the class collaborative poem, illustrated with filmed or photographed examples linking to the lines in the poem. It may be composed of five/six groups work.

Filming, Editing and Sharing Your Book Review

- Ensure there is enough free memory space on cameras, iPads or other tablets and that they are fully charged.
- This project can be easily completed on a video editing app such as [Adobe Spark Video](#).
- At the end of the project, the films could be shared with other children in school at a LitFilmFest assembly. [Download your free assembly pack here](#).
- Also, visit litfilmfest.com to find out how to enter finished projects for the chance to be celebrated through a free filming workshops, training, or have a personalised well done video sent back to you! You can also find us on [Facebook](#) or tag us on [twitter @LitFilmFest](#).

<p>Adobe Spark</p> <p>When it comes to editing simple video projects in the classroom, we recommend Adobe Spark Video. It is free to download from the Apple store on your iPad and can be used intuitively by staff or students to quickly create effective video to share. This project includes videos on how to get started with Spark.</p>	<p>Adobe Rush</p> <p>For advanced editing software, you may want to use Adobe Rush, a more advanced editing software which comes with three free exports when you sign up. There is also a mobile app available. We have provided videos here on getting started with Rush.</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

If you and your children enjoyed this project, why not check out another? We have a whole library of [quality projects](#). Or become a [LitFilmFest member](#) and see radical improvements in progress and engagement.