This Is Us! Poetry Project

This is Us! is the perfect start of year literacy project. Get to know your class and their background whilst, absorbing them with writing poetry for a purpose, with support from accredited poet, Joseph Coelho. The mix of backgrounds, cultures and memories that go into making your class is something to be reflected on and celebrated in this project. This can help encourage an accepting and global mindset in your class whilst celebrating the individuals that come together to make community.

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'!

	Lesson	Content summary	Literacy aims
1	Introduction	1. Watch project introduction video 2. Share and respond to project poems 3. Reflect and analyse their background - choose 5 areas they want to find out about each other's backgrounds (food, weather, play, family, language, religion, sports, possessions, education, values). They fill in questionnaires about their partners to find out more about their background. Pull out key words to create own poems.	Read and enjoy Initial reactions to poems
2	Study poem	1. Share poetry 2. Identify poetic devices 3. Comment on likes and dislikes 4. Choose own design	Analyse features and ask questions
3	Write own poem	1. Write acrostic/shape poem based on research from lesson 1 of a friend's background	Shared and independent writing, using poetic devices, planning and drafting
4	Study description poetic devices	1. Share and read a descriptive poem 2. Identify poetic devices	Analyse poetic devices: (alliteration and repetition, no rhyme, descriptive, simile/metaphor, personification, some rhyme)
5	Plan and draft poetry	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	Edit, write and practise	1. Write their own poem using poetic devices	Editing, writing individual poems, performance technique

7	Edit, write and practise	1. Edit poems/write up neat 2. Groups chose lines to be used in a final collaborative class poems 3. Rehearse, give feedback	Editing, writing individual poems, performance technique
8	Filming to support a collaborative performance	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)	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)	1. Re-cover different poetry types 2. Independent writing of own poems on a play topic of their choice.	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.

Filming and Editing Preparation

- Ensure there is enough free memory space on iPads and that they are fully charged.
- This project could be 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.
- Also, visit litfilmfest.com to find out how to enter finished projects for the chance to be celebrated through a free filming workshop or have a personalised well done video sent back to you! You can also find us on Facebook and tag us on twitter @LitFilmFest.

Curriculum:
READING:
- recognising simple recurring literary language in stories and poetry
- listening to, discussing and expressing views about a wide range of contemporary and classic poetry, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently
- recognising different forms of poetry [for example, free verse, narrative poetry] (KS2)
WRITING
- learning a wider range of poetry by heart