

Storytelling incorporating maths.

Goals.

My goals for these workshops are to demonstrate that maths ideas can be incorporated into story telling and closely related activities, such as drama work and to provide you with an immediately usable stock of ideas suitable for different age groups that gives you a starting resource from which to develop your own ideas.

Many of the stories I will be using are available on the Count On web-site (www.counton.org -go to the "explorer" option on the left-hand bar and then scroll down to "on-line stories") or directly from me on request if not available there. (The stories are all copyright to me so please do only use them in your school if you request them and harangue any publishers you happen to come across about their brilliance and suitability for their list!)

The morning workshop will be geared towards infant/lower junior children and the afternoon workshop for older children (Junior).

The following notes are intended as memory joggers - the workshops will be highly interactive. However I know it's awful when individual people get picked on to do things, so I sincerely promise that I won't randomly pick anyone out to do anything ... very often!

Morning workshop.

Introduction.

Visual gag. "Rectangle"

Drama warm up - making/being solid shapes as a group.

The "Wise Wizz of Woo" number stories, involving ordering the numbers 1 -10, re-ordering them in various ways and challenges involving the numbers 1 -20.

Drama activities involving - new number orders, solution to ten's problem.

Demonstration re how to access resources on internet.

Review of the drama activities possible using

Daft discovery - work out how to measure

Stone Age School Shock - what to do when new numbers arrive. - shape to draw them.

Stolen Stash share out - "sharing" things wrongly - more ideas for "Boss"

Silly money - solution to problems

(All these are available in www.counton.org)

Story "All shapes and Sizes." A chance for you to cheer or boo as I tell you a story you could easily tell to make learning about solid shapes fun!

A King-Size Take Away Pizza for the Queen. A story involving subtraction and an enormous pizza (oh and the queen!)

Talk 2.

"Love Quadrilateral" A warm up love story

Shapes poem - a short poem about 2D shapes

Fractious Fractions - what you could use as a class based court-room drama involving percentages and fractions - audience participation required!! (Story available on CountOn.)

This story has a need for sequel, so its use could lead to the children working in groups to make own story/sketch/poem for presentation.

Preparation and presentation of your own maths story/poem/sketch! The ultimate in participant participation. It could for example be...

A sequel to "Fractious Fractions"

Interviewing a 2D shape, a 3D shape, the decimal point, negative numbers, a rounded number

"Normal" situation where characters use averages a lot

Situation where characters get probability completely wrong

A subject of your own choosing.

Tips on author visits.

If time at the end more cheering and booing as I tell you

Guitar Gnoffs/Shaky Averages*/Hank Bullman

*Available on the CountOn web-site

Questions

Also available!!

"Crazy Ideas (to stimulate creative writing)" - short snappy ideas designed to get reluctant writers writing and to inspire enthusiastic writers - ISBN 1904572189 (Tel: 01206-211020.)

"Using Stories to teach Science" books for infants co-written with Headteacher Simon Hickton, published by Hopscotch Educational Publications (Ages 5 to 6 ISBN 1904390246, Ages 6 to 7 ISBN 1904390254 Tel: 01249-701701.)

Coming soon!!

Simon and I are currently finishing a major project for Claire Publications, a "Phonics Handbook and Resource" pack using texts of different length for all the different phonemes. Makes teaching phonemes much more fun and flexible!

"Simply Science" A series of 16 colourful books explaining science in an exciting and interesting way for 7 year-olds. (Published internationally by Allegra Publications, has been licensed to a UK publisher.)