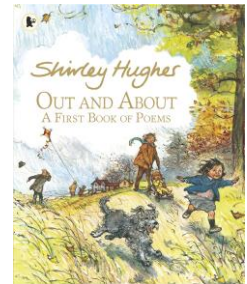


Take 5: Ideas for Independent/Home Learning

Out and About by Shirley Hughes (Walker)

1. Explore it

Read the poem below and look carefully at the illustrations you see across the two pages:



What is this poem about? What do you like about it? Or dislike? Have you ever been wet through in really heavy rain? What was it like? How did it make you feel?

Look at the short phrases that Shirley Hughes has used in the words. How do these make you feel when they are read out? Now, look at the colours that Shirley Hughes has used in the illustrations. What colours, shades and tones can you see? Why do you think she has chosen these?

How do the poem and the illustrations make you feel about the wet weather? How would your voice sound when you feel this way? How might you read the poem aloud, to capture this feeling? Practice doing this a few times in different ways. You could do this together with someone else in your house to try out different ideas. When you have found a way you like best, have a go at performing it to someone else. You could get someone to take a video of you performing it and share this safely with someone else you know or to your teacher.

2. Illustrate it

Re-read the poem, ask someone to read it to you, or maybe record it for yourself so you can play it over again. Think about how the wet weather described makes you feel. Why does it make you feel this way? When it's wet outside, do you feel this way? Or does it make you feel a different way? What do you like to

do when it's wet? Do like to be indoors or out playing in the rain? Why? Use your imagination to picture yourself doing what you would most enjoy in wet weather. Perhaps you are outside, splashing in puddles in wellies? Or maybe you are inside, drinking hot chocolate and staying dry?

Take some paper and a pencil and draw out what you imagine you would like to do when it's wet. If you don't have paper to hand, you could use the back of an old letter or a back of an old cereal packet. If you have some coloured pencils or crayons, think about what colours you could use to help show the feelings you feel in the picture. Will you use dark and dull colours like Shirley Hughes or brighter, lighter ones?

Remember, everyone has their own ideas and imagines things their own way. This is a good thing! Share your picture with someone else at home and ask them what they like to do when it's wet. Is it the same or different to you?

3. Talk about it

- Think about the adjectives that Shirley Hughes uses to describe things in the poem: ***Dark Clouds***, ***Misted pane***, ***Wet umbrellas***, ***Running noses***, ***Damp feet***. Do these phrases make you think the wet weather is a good thing or a bad thing? Why?
- Look at the grown-ups in the illustrations. We can't see their faces, but how do you think they feel about the weather? Why do you think this?
- Who do you think might like the rain in the illustrations? What makes you think this? Why do you think they might like it?
- Why do you think Shirley Hughes called the poem ***Wet***? How does this word make you feel? How is it different to calling the poem Rain? Does it sound more positive or negative?

4. Imagine it

Think about the two children in the first illustration, looking out of the window. We can't see their faces. How do you think they feel about the rain? Are they sad or cross because they can't go out? Are they happy or excited because they like watching it splash? How else might they feel and why? You could do a drawing from the other side of the window, showing how their faces look as they watch the rain outside. You could even think about what they might be thinking or saying to each other or the people at home with them and add these ideas in thought or speech bubbles around them.

5. Create it

Spend some time looking out of one of your windows, like the two children in the first illustration. What is it like outside? What is the weather like? Is it wet and rainy like in the poem? Or is it sunny, cloudy or windy? Can you see any people? What do they look like? How are they reacting to what it's like outside?

Draw some illustrations, to capture what you see, like Shirley Hughes has here. You might choose to draw one big picture, or some smaller ones too. You might even choose to draw yourself looking out as well! How will you capture what people are doing or how they are feeling?

Now, think about how you can use words to describe what you see in a poem. Shirley Hughes called this poem ***Wet***. What word might best capture the view outside your window? Is it a feeling, an action? Have a go at writing some phrases using adjectives to describe the things you see and putting these together to make a poem. When you've finished you might want to write or type it out in best to display alongside your picture or you could perform it live to someone at home or on a video to safely share with someone you know or your teacher.