Writing Week 2

The Egg M. P. Robertson

Task 1 - Opening

George knew something wasn't right, when he found more than he had bargained for under his mother's favourite chicken.

He moved the egg to the warmth of his bedroom. For three days and three nights he read the egg stories.

On the third night, the egg started to rumble. Something was hatching, and it definitely wasn't a chicken...

Task 2 - Build-up

When the dragon saw George, it gave a chirrup of delight. George didn't speak Dragon, but he knew exactly what the dragon had said...

"Mummy."

George had never been a mother before, but he knew that it was his motherly duty to teach the dragon dragony ways.

The first lesson he taught was *The Fine Art of Flying*.

The second lesson was *Fire and How to Breathe It.*

The third lesson was *How to Distress a Damsel*.

And the final lesson was *How to Duff a Knight*.

Task 3 - Problem

Every evening, as all good mothers should, George read the dragon a bedtime story.

One night, as he read from a book of dragon tales, the dragon looked longingly at the pictures. A sizzling tear rolled down his scaly cheek.

The dragon was lonely. He was missing his own kind.

The next morning, the dragon had gone. George was very sad. He thought he would never see his dragon again.

Task 4 - Resolution

But seven nights later, he was woken by the beating of wings. Excitedly, he pulled back the curtains. There, perched in the tree, was the dragon. George opened the window and clambered onto his back.

They soared into the night, chasing the moon around the world, over oceans and mountains and cities.

Faster and faster they went, until they came to a place that was neither North nor South, East nor West.

They swooped down through the clouds, into a cave that gaped like a dragon's jaws. This was the place where dragons lived.

The dragon gave a roar of delight. He was home at last.

Task 5 - Ending

Finally, it was time for George to leave.

Up, up they flew, chasing sleep through the night, until they could see his home below.

George hugged his dragon tight, and the dragon gave a roar. George didn't speak Dragon, but he knew exactly what the dragon had said... "Thank you." Below are some suggested actions to support the story telling process. The idea is that the children use an action when saying a key word from the story. They do not need an action for every word – we'd recommend 3 or 4 actions per sentence.

Suggested Actions for Story Telling

These are suggestions only. It is recommended that all staff are involved in agreeing the actions to ensure consistency throughout the school

- Once upon a time open hands like a book
- Early one morning hands to side of head and pretend to wake up
- First one finger pointed up
- Next two fingers pointed to one side
- But fingers down
- Because hands out open palmed
- At that moment/Suddenly Hands opened expressively as if in surprise
- Unfortunately hands open to side with shrug

- Luckily fists closed then opened like stars
- After that roll hands over in turning gesture
- So roll hands forwards slightly and open as if giving
- Finally palm facing audience like a policeman stopping traffic
- In the end bring hands together as if closing book
- Eventually hands on hips
- Then hand flat and forward (palm down)
- However finger on cheek/thumb on chin
- Meanwhile double point to 'somewhere else'

Below is an example of a completed story map of The Egg. Please use this to support. It is ok for the children to see this as we would usual model our own story map in class.

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Below is a selection of websites that should support the Talk For Writing process.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMhluX50SuI

Pie Corbett explains the process

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdvJZD-cplg

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=av1ZyVH2Qpw

Pie Corbett models retelling a story using story actions