

Ideas for Today's Resources



Traditionally in schools we ask pupils to write across all subjects. Literacy is a key skill that underpins almost everything else that we do both in school and throughout life. Media literacy is all around us, many children and adults encounter it more than the written word. Some people might take a dim view of this and phrases like 'lack of standards' and 'dumbing down' start to emerge but the fact of the matter is that the way we use literacy in its broadest sense has evolved, it always has. From individual fireside storytellers, through images in churches of the stations of the cross for the 'illiterate' to role player games where you are in another world, they all use different forms of media to effectively communicate message. Sound a bit philosophical? Well yes, but in daily terms the reality is that understanding new forms of literacy, having an awareness of how they affect us and how we can use them is incredibly important to succeed in the modern world. Today's activity continues the media theme with a documentary style which applies both to film and even those really long PowerPoints we have all had to sit through where they read the words to you from the screen...

Using the task

The video provides an example of what maybe isn't so effective?

Discussion points:

- What would people find interesting?
- How can I create/find the images that will interest the audience?
- How can I develop the language in a script that interests the audience?

Community

Creating a sense of community around this work will improve authenticity and motivation for the children. I have provided a google folder at the bottom of the webpage for images of work to be uploaded to. Please don't put full names on, first name is fine and possibly the town where you are. Experience shows that this really develops self confidence and improved outcomes for further work. Equally you can email work to me.

Tasks and outcomes

If you film ten minutes of narrative and images and after editing end up with maybe two, you are probably on the right track. You and your family will find anything you are filmed in interesting, but will a total stranger? Think hard about what you are trying to show and how it will connect with your audience

Task suggestions include:

- Find six images connected by a subject and write a VoiceOver to edit over them in a short film
- Film six short scenes of live action then create a voice over to add to them
- Script carefully a series of three scenes where the person presents to camera about something that is in the shot with them (e.g., your favourite toys)



The world's greatest presenter ever?