

Lesson 3: Being a writer in Newham

Teacher Notes

1. We live in a community of writers. Why do people write?
Generate the discussion with pupils, sharing wide range of motivations. Explain that we will be exploring people who write in different ways, all of whom are LOCAL writers. People they might just bump into in the street.
2. Share the photos of local writers.
3. Explain that today's lesson is about creative writing, and learning the lessons shared by local writers.
 - a. LOCATIONS
 - i. Share the quotations from Andrew Lane and Luan Goldie. Talk around each one.
 - ii. Get children to write down about five specific locations in Newham that are vivid to them.
 - b. PEOPLE
 - i. Share the quotations from Suresh Singh and Vaseem Khan
 - ii. Get children to record snippets and anecdotes about five people who they know very well - likely family - who they could render into story.
 - c. DRAWING ON OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE
 - i. Share the two quotations from Irenosen Okojie
 - ii. Have the children share thoughts about stories that may be passed around in the family. Often, it may be grandparents who share these stories.
 - d. OWNING YOUR SPACE AS A WRITER
 - i. Share the quotations from Irenosen Okojie and Pete May
4. Give children the opportunity and time to play around with combining all of these elements to create a short piece of writing about a moment in time, combining one of their Newham settings, with characters they know well.
5. Share stories together in the moment. Encourage children to add to and develop this at home if they would like to, ahead of the final session by playing the video of John Newman asking them to talk about their family's stories at home.