



TeachMeet

Using texts to link geography and English

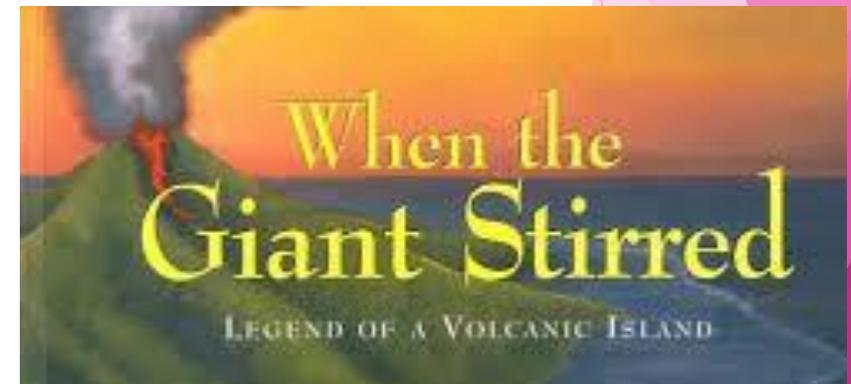
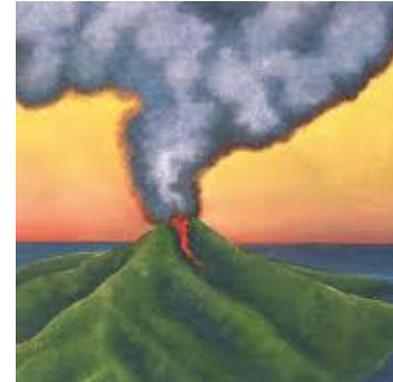
Caroline Freedman
Teacher, Martin Primary School, East Finchley
Tuesday 2nd March

Geography and English

- ▶ Often very limited time for geography
- ▶ Can be least favourite subject for many teachers
- ▶ By linking quality texts it raises the profile of geography and brings it to the forefront of the curriculum
- ▶ Enables children to make links and understand complex subjects or issues in geography
- ▶ Can introduce relevant topics in a fun/interesting way

When the Giant Stirred by Celia Godkin

- ▶ Legend of a Volcanic Island
- ▶ Tells the story of the inhabitants of an island in the South Pacific deal with 'the giant'
- ▶ Beautiful illustrations that can be used to stimulate setting descriptions
- ▶ Simple and easy to follow
- ▶ Good for recounts and newspaper reports
- ▶ Children soon realise it is a volcano and can't wait for it to erupt



Teaching ideas

- ▶ Read the book in sections - asked children what they thought would happen next
- ▶ Looked on a world map to see where the island was located
- ▶ Links with learning of tectonic plates and the ring of fire
- ▶ Before the volcano erupted the birds flew away
- ▶ After effects - tsunami
- ▶ Inhabitants displaced - effects on people
- ▶ Island is left uninhabited for many years
- ▶ Eventually life returns to the island - regeneration
- ▶ Able to refer to the story when learning about volcanoes in geography

Tuesday 22nd September

Lo: I can write a recount using interesting adjectives

Long, long ago lay a glorious, green island surrounded by a shimmering, gemed ocean.

Turtles came to bury their cute eggs in the shimmering, magnificent moon light.

In the forest small butterflies slipped their colourful wings.

Also there was a blue lagoon where glorious fish swam past the different shaped multicoloured reefs.

In the small village people went fishing in the blue lagoon and chopped them up for lunch.

In the forest lived a cone shaped mountain that let out a gentle puff of smoke. When the giant mumbled people went up the mountain and flew nice smelling flowers.

beautiful

Good- you have used a wide range of adjectives.

Rewrite this sentence to make it clearer. In the small village people went fishing in the blue lagoon and chopped fish up for lunch.

Wednesday 9th September

Lo: I can write a setting description using interesting adjectives



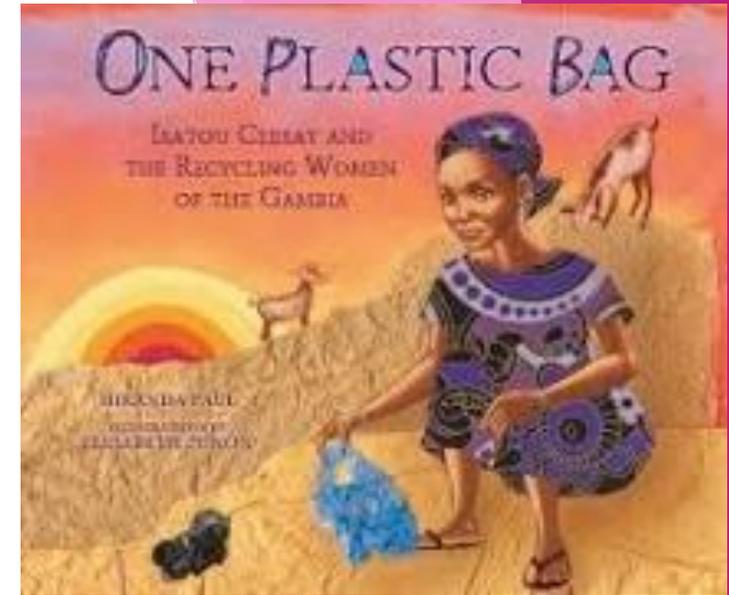
The astonishing scarlet birds fly in the light of day while the orchids scatter attracts sweet sweet butterflies soar in the sky. The wet mud shimmers whilst the sun's brave beams reflect on it. The vibrant flowers in a beautiful pattern attract pass striped yellow and black smaller big bees who take take the colorful pollen. The white and pink overgrown blossoms take over the wooden trees. The slim grass blows side to side whilst the wind blows. The tt parrots soar in the sky amongst the wind while the butterflies join them. The rough hardened solid rocks stare into space the river flows gently shimmering and shining in the hot sunny lovely day the wind wails in the sky the days go by so quickly in the rainforest.

You have included some great descriptions.

Check where you need to put

One Plastic Bag by Miranda Paul

- ▶ The story of Isatou Ceesay and how she made a difference
- ▶ Plastic bags are great - cheap and easy to use
- ▶ In the book, they soon become a problem when goats swallow them
- ▶ Isatou has a plan and uses the plastic bags to transform her community
- ▶ Simple language
- ▶ Lots of repetition
- ▶ Set in The Gambia
- ▶ Shows how resilience and perseverance can really pay off
- ▶ True story



Teaching ideas



- ▶ Pros and cons of plastic combined with writing paragraphs
- ▶ Letter writing - to Isatou saying how the story made them feel
- ▶ Revision of 3R's - reduce, reuse, recycle and introduction to 5R's - rethink and refuse
- ▶ Differences between UK and rural West Africa
- ▶ Great to show how one person can make a difference
- ▶ DT project making something useful out of recyclable materials

English

Lot of us think that plastic is bad but many of the things that we use everyday are made of plastic for good and useful reasons. A lot of our electrical items are covered in plastic to protect them from breaking and to stop us being electrocuted or hurt. Plastic also keeps our food fresher for longer to stop food waste. Plastic is light but strong so it can be used in planes, cars and other vehicles. When they are lighter they use less fuel and that reduces pollution. Plastic is water proof and lasts long so we can use it for clothing and it is also used in hospitals.

However, plastic is very bad for our environment, especially single use plastic. It takes lots of energy to make plastic. Plastic rubbish ends up hurting, trapping and killing lots of wild life. Animals on land and in the sea eat the plastic and choke or the chemicals in the plastic poison them. The plastic that ends up in the ocean makes big piles called trash islands. These look horrible and are harmful to sea creatures and birds. Plastic does not decompose so we should only use what we really need and recycle as much as we can.

24 Huntingdon road
London N2 9DU

28/01/2021

Dear Tsatou,

I was captivated by how marvellous the book 'One Plastic Bag' was. It really encouraged me to make something out of things that people could have thrown away. I really enjoyed how the book was based on your real adventures in your life.

I thought how wonderful and baggling that a few women saved lots of animals and helped N'gou.

I have a couple of questions to ask. How did you come up with an idea so fast? Have N'gou and the people in N'gou changed?

I hope everyone follows your lead and stops plastic pollution.

Kind regards
Lucie



Katie in London by James Mayhew



London seemed very big to Katie. Big trains, big buildings and big crowds. She held on to Grandma with one hand and her little brother, Jack, with the other. They all got on to a big red bus and set off to see the sights.

- ▶ Katie's grandma takes her and her brother Jack into London and promptly falls asleep
- ▶ The lion in Trafalgar Square comes to life and takes Katie and Jack on their backs all around London
- ▶ Beautiful illustrations with lots of details
- ▶ Describing characters/feelings
- ▶ Vocabulary - bustling, gazed, chugged
- ▶ Introduce similes

Teaching ideas



When they got off at Trafalgar Square,
Giordano was tired.
"I'll just have a little rest," she yawned. "I
stay by that lion, then I'll know where you



- ▶ Map Katie, Jack and the lion's route around London
- ▶ Different functions of London - port, tourism, home to the Queen, Parliament, retail
- ▶ Link to local area - Caroline in East Finchley
- ▶ Drawing maps
- ▶ Compass directions

East Finchley seemed very busy to Caroline. She held on to Grandpa with one hand and her little brother, Milo, with the other. They trudged down the High Street and towards East Finchley Station.

When they arrived, Grandpa was tired.

“I’ll just have a small snooze,” he yawned. “You two stay here by the entrance.”

Caroline and Milo looked up at the statue on top of the station. Caroline pretended to fire an arrow up at it. As she did so the Archer turned from grey to a glorious green colour.



Caroline in East Finchley



Walking up hill they were soon at another grand building.

“You can see the whole of London from up here,” gasped Milo.

Seeing the signs, Caroline and Milo realised this was Alexandra Palace.

At one end of the building was a metal tower that was as tall as a skyscraper.

“This is where the first TV broadcast was made in 1936.” The Archer explained as Caroline and Milo looked up in amazement.

Other books



- ▶ **The Promise by Nicola Davies**
- ▶ Tells the story of how the narrator makes a promise to an old lady whose bag she steals
- ▶ **Window and Belonging by Jeannie Baker**
- ▶ Both books look at changing cities. Window follows a house as the land around it turns into a city. Belonging follows a house as the city around it becomes greener.
- ▶ Use as stimulus for thinking about improvements to school or local area or problems with urban development

