

National Conference on Gifted Education, Rotorua, 13-15 March 2009

How do I know they'll like it?

Notes from Workshop

**Jilly O'Brien
Danielle Nicholson**

Communication

Poetry and Communication

- Write sonnets as love letters to.....?!
- How do you “measure” good poetry?
- Dr Seuss – Sounds of words/nonsense poems
- Experimenting writing in different situations e.g with/without music, types of music, inside/outside
- Song lyrics and poetry – what’s the difference?
- Relationship between codes and poems
- Global poetry
- Textless poetry – all visual
- Txt poetry!
- Create a new style of poetry

Body language and Communication

- Kabuki – Japanese mime using masks/communicating without using facial expressions
- Dance – communicating stories through movement
- Artworks – interpreting body positions
- Film studies – interaction/relationships of people
- Aspergers syndrome
- Confused/mixed messages – cultural significance
- Communication with animals
- Clowning – history, roles in society, silent movies
- Clothing/make up/face paint to accentuate a particular body language. Design shoes to reflect a personality, then decipher “who would wear these..?”
- Personal space – peer and cultural context
- Gangs
- Job interviews
- Youtube – “wonderful world” hand puppetry
- “Disabled” dance group. Design/choreograph own

Words and communication

- What words could we get rid of and why?
- Messages behind words
- Mis-communication
- Sign language
- Spoonerisms
- Personification of a quality
- Make neologisms (new words)
- Danger of words
- A world without words
- Wordle.net
- Visit publishing company
- Telecommunications

Art

- What is art?
- Is graffiti a valid art form?
- How does good art promote conversation?
- What does art of the past communicate about that time?
- Use of colour/symbols to convey a message
- Colour and marketing, colour and control, colour and gender
- Compare/contrast different mediums – how do they compare in getting across a message
- People involved in art – research famous artists
- What values are the artists presenting – do these change over time/between cultures?
- History of art – development of communication from cave drawings
- Optical illusions
- Fraud – does it matter?
- Make a visual diary to track your life/moods

Maths/Numbers

- Is maths a language?
- Escher – how does this mathematician use maths to create his art?
- How does maths communicate effectively?
- Writing instructions
- Sequencing measurements
- Symbols for communication
- Present data in different ways to show a particular bias
- Mathematical patterns
- “There are statistics, darn statistics and lies” Mark Twain. Discuss this.

Other languages

- Learn another language (correspondence school/websites/experts)
- What is the entire world spoke the same language? (PMI, consequences web)
- Design own language (example Pig Latin). Do in groups and use to pass on secret messages during the day
- Design book of English colloquialisms for ESOL students. Research via expert areas of difficulty
- Research history of English. Record origin of foreign based words e.g. pizza. Map these.
- Analyse structure of other languages, e.g. Latin based. Try speaking English using these structures e.g. adjective, then noun
- Asian languages – are there similarities? Why? Predict meanings. Practice art of Japanese calligraphy, using an expert.
- What would be the 6 most vital phrases to know in a foreign land?
- Trial Maori immersion of School for Deaf. Would you change? How did it feel? Emotions graph