Storytelling: Practice makes Perfect (Workshop)

X.TED ELT Conference, at TED Mersin College 28th April 2018

Guidelines for Groups

Try this exercise in school; small groups of teachers look at a picture book together, and answer the questions

• Read the story

One of you can read it aloud to the others, or you can read it together, or take it in turns to read.

• If you want, you can appoint a group leader

When you report back from the session, the leader could describe what your group thought; you could use this sheet for notes. If you prefer, all group members could report back together.

• Consider the following questions:

Did you like the story? (Why? or Why not? Feel free to say, but based on more than just personal taste!)

How would you introduce the story to children? (a talking point? an object or prop? a puppet?)

Has the story got a theme, or 'shape'? (Numbers, Colours? Funny, Scary? Cumulative, etc.)

Is there a 'climax', or high point of the story? A surprise? A funny or scary moment?

What age of children (roughly) would you use it with?

Are there opportunities for you to use different voices?

Are there opportunities for children to join in? (repeated phrases, choruses, animal noises, etc.)

Are there any unusual words, which need care in pronunciation, or even explaining? Are there words or phrases that are especially funny, or beautiful, that you can take special pleasure in?

What might you pause, to talk about, during the story? (e.g. details in the pictures, 'prediction moments')

What follow-up activities might you try?