

BAME English Text summaries

Year six:

Rainplayer

Overview and Outcomes:

This is a three-week sequence using the fictional narrative *The Rain Player* as well as making reference to the non-fiction information within *History in Infographics: The Maya*. The sequence begins with a ball arriving in the classroom with a warning asking children if they dare to play the most dangerous game of all time! Children go on to use this information they have learned to write instructions for pok-a-tok, posters, a missing scene, newspaper reports, conduct debates and write analytical essays.

Synopsis of Texts:

The ancient Mayan belief that the future was divinely decreed and could not be changed is the basis for this original tale of a boy who must defeat the Rain God in a ball game to save his people from disaster. Mayan art and architecture were the inspiration for the spectacular cut-paper artwork.

Links:

Maya, the Mayans, chocolate, Pok-a-Tok, Fair Trade, Aztecs, Incas, South America, civilisations, gods

Some Place more than Others

Overview and Outcomes:

This is a three-week planning sequence for 'Some Places More Than Others' by Renee Watson. Through the course of this sequence, children will be mirroring the Suitcase Project completed by Amara in the book. Children will need a box (a shoebox would be suitable) to collect items. The project is timed with children moving on to secondary school and is aimed at helping them understand themselves and answer the question, What makes you, you? Planned opportunities include letters, diaries, memory maps, recipe instructions, leaflets, poems and a biography. Alongside the sequence, children could be set homework to gather additional items such as quotes, photos, interviews, recipes, music lyrics and maps that are meaningful to them. There is a helpful list at the back of the book that may provide inspiration.



Synopsis of Text:

All Amara wants for her birthday is to visit her father's family in New York City - Harlem. She can't wait to finally meet her Grandpa Earl and cousins in person, and to stay in the brownstone where her father grew up. Maybe this will help her understand her family - and herself - in a new way. But New York City is not exactly what Amara thought it would be. It's noisy, crowded, confusing, and her cousins can be mean. Plus her father is too busy working to spend time with her and too angry to fix his relationship with Grandpa Earl. Amara can't help wondering, even if she does discover more about where she came from, will it help her know where she belongs?

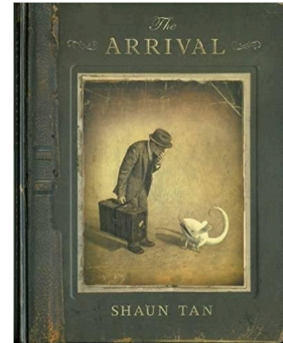
Links:

Transition, suitcase, project, roots, poetry, America, USA, Harlem

The Arrival

Overview and Outcomes:

This is a three-week sequence using *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan. It explores the issue of immigration and the reasons why people have to flee countries and seek asylum. It can be used in conjunction with Black History Month as they explore characters, emotions, different points of view and the challenges faced by the main character and some of the other characters who have made their way to a new land. Children will write diary of the little girl left behind There will also be opportunities to write short scripts for scenes and narrative passages to describe what is happening at certain points in the book. It includes exemplified grammar activities throughout, as well as including Drama techniques, such as Thought Tapping.



Synopsis of Text:

What drives so many to leave everything behind and journey alone to a mysterious country, a place without family or friends, where everything is nameless and the future is unknown. This silent graphic novel is the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey.

The Arrival has become one of the most critically acclaimed books of recent years, a wordless masterpiece that describes a world beyond any familiar time or place.

Links:

Refugees, immigration, migration, wordless, film