

Learning Resources

Key Stage 2: Story Portals / Oracy

Students will explore magical portals used in classic stories featured in the Enchanted Library, from the Rabbit Hole down into Wonderland to the Wardrobe through to snowy Narnia. Students then take part in group drama activities to conjure their own magical portal and stimulate the beginning of a new story.

Outcomes: speaking and listening presentation.

The Story Portals workshop aligns with the Voice 21 Oracy Skills Framework. This session offers multiple learning opportunities for children in Key Stage 2. Here's how this session supports children's skills across the framework:

Oracy Skills Framework Links

Physical Skills (Voice and Body Language)

The session begins with an interactive drama task, based on a reading for *Voyage of the Dawn Treader* by C.S. Lewis, and/or *The Land of Roar* by Jenny McLachlan. Students will explore how to use body language and facial expressions to express the ideas in the narrative. Listening to a reading by a trained storyteller will also expose them to varieties in tone, pace, and projection.

Linguistic Skills (Vocabulary, Grammar, and Spoken Language features)

As they create their portals narrative, students will enrich their vocabulary through the inclusion of adjectives, emotions and further literary devices. They will develop spoken word skills by presenting their stories in narrated form to the rest of the class.

Cognitive Skills (Reasoning, Sequencing, and Comprehension)

Students will be introduced to a common narrative structure that is found within many fantasy stories. Students will create a sequence of freeze frames around this narrative which is used as a basis for oral retellings of their stories. Students will discuss the content of their narrative in their groups, carefully selecting and building upon each other's ideas. Older students can be encouraged to develop their reasoning skills in explaining why they made certain choices and ensuring that they are prepared to justify these.

Social & Emotional Skills (Confidence, Empathy, and Collaboration)

Creating a new story affords students the opportunity to work in a small group and thus practise teamworking skills. They will listen to each other's ideas and take turns, as well as speaking with assurance when it comes to sharing their own thoughts. Presenting a story back to a group of classmates will also mean that the children will take the needs of their audience into account in terms of interest and engagement.

Supporting Schools' Learning Goals

For schools, the 'Story Portals' session aligns with the Oracy Framework in many ways, and the session supports children's communication skills, as well as their social development.

This combination of storytelling, group work and story creation offers a comprehensive approach to oracy, helping children develop key skills in a playful, supportive environment at The Story Museum.