



Active Story making

“Reading and Writing float on a sea of talk”

(James Britton – Educationalist)

Active Story Making puts talk at the heart of writing. Spoken language is the first, most important resource that children as writers will have. Even before children can gain pencil control or attain a grasp of phonics they can have the ability to tell stories orally.

Active Story Making is about improving children’s spoken and written language, as well as social skills and self confidence, in creative contexts using storytelling as a vehicle. Through a process of listening, speaking and verbal rehearsal Active Story Making helps children to internalise a bank of story language patterns and structures.

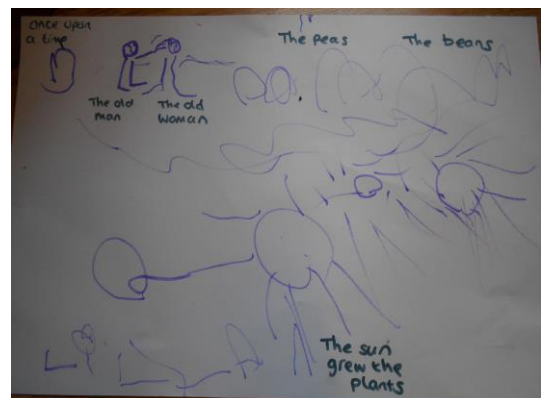
A story is introduced to the children using three key approaches:

VAK – VISUAL, AUDITORY AND KINAESTHETIC LEARNING. (USING OUR SENSES).

Children and adults learn in different ways. Through Active Story Making we address these different learning styles.



The ‘Visual’ input will be in the form of a ‘Story Map’. Children can do code pictures as well as simple letters and words to tell the story. This is first step to reading and writing.





The 'Auditory' input will be the 'Words' and the 'Kinaesthetic' input will be the 'Actions'.

"They waited...and waited...and waited"

Hence the youngest to the oldest can delight in being story tellers as well as by annotating through their drawings the children are writing their very first stories. As children attempt to make meaning of the world emerging around them, we must accept that words may

not be enough and this story making project offers the chance of alternative methods of narration. Drawing can be a tool of communication much simpler and clearer than words as it provides this bridge between play and writing, a way of communicating thoughts, ideas and emotions.

"I think I should understand that better, if I had it written down: but I can't quite follow it as you say it".

(Alice to the Dormouse In Alice's Adventures In Wonderland)