

## Communicating Poetry of Place

### Speaking the landscape

#### Performance poetry

- Use individual or group responses to a place and have performance pieces, ideally set in the landscape but could be repeated back in school with chosen 'props' e.g. artefacts, images, artwork etc.
- Use video or audio devices to capture initial phrases or finished pieces. If just audio, this could be set to a background of music, photographs or art. Photostory, PPT or Flipcam videos can help with this.

### Writing the landscape

- Use chalk to write on available surfaces eg paths, pebbles (making sure it is appropriate to do so – but chalk will wash off anyway). Take photographs of finished work to capture it.
- For example, you might work in groups with each member writing separate words on large pebbles then arrange them to create phrases.
- Use signs and posters to decorate trees and other features with created text. Laminate these to help them last (appropriate for school grounds).
- Choose appropriate places to decorate buildings and paint poetry phrases on. For example the exterior walls of the school, the corridor, the playground walls, plant tubs and floors. Or work with local crafts people to create carved phrases on wooden surfaces such as sheds and benches or wooden display boards.
- Create books illustrated with photos and drawings
- Design and paint T shirts with chosen phrases and sell them at a school fete
- Use glass paint to decorate windows with poetry phrases or put this onto Perspex sheets cut to fit window spaces and tack them in place to create stained glass work effects. You could add drawn images.
- Illustrate paper maps at different scales with chosen words and phrases (see *Geomorphological mapping with children*) or use digital mapping to add markers to specific places and upload your poetry to these.
- Describe the landscape that you can see in 140 characters – either directly on a phone using Twitter, using a tablet or failing that use the format with an old fashioned paper and pen to help prioritise and select appropriate vocabulary.
- Use Haiku to convey the essential essence of a place. A Japanese lyric verse form having three unrhymed lines of five, seven, and five syllables, traditionally invoking an aspect of nature or the season.
- Hold outdoor or indoor exhibitions to celebrate and share the poetry with parents. Upload poetry and images to the school web site in written and spoken forms.
- Use different colour themes to illustrate poetry inspired by the same place experienced at different times of the year or day.