Teachers' Resources 2

These are guidelines to trigger your imagination and to provide interaction with students. These notes can be used independently, or in conjunction with the book 'Violet Jelly'.

I am happy to receive e-mails to answer any questions, for advice or giving feedback at the following e-mail address: info@annsharples.com

Colour

Begin with an open discussion about colour and what it means to us. Imagine a world with no colour. If you are reading the book Violet Jelly, you can refer to the colour folder being suddenly taken.

What medium will best suit your theme of Colour?

It could be used for Art, Writing, Drama.

Decide which is relevant to the needs of the students.

Art

A collage, a model or a painting could serve as a medium. The resulting work is a portrayal, in some way, of the feelings evoked by colour.
Thought must be given as to what materials will be needed and how they will be used to best effect.

Here are some ideas:

Paint an abstract using shapes, lines, textures and the tones of one colour.

Use a shape (cylinder, disc, box) to make a colour collage of different textures and surfaces. These can be suspended as a display.

Observing Colour

Seasonal colours, the effects of light/shade on a colour. Colour in nature - camouflage or display of colour. Use one theme to depict as a collage, painting, model. (example – the changing colours of a leaf, depicted as a mobile).

Writing

Talk about colour, collecting and sharing ideas about the emotion evoked by colour and/or the joy of colour in nature.

The emotion of a colour could take the form of descriptive prose or a poem. Describing the colour of a scene can also take one of these forms.

For descriptive prose or a poem:

Choose words carefully

How will you use them?

Which words will be kept and which discarded?

Read your words aloud to feel the rhythm and the way in which the words interact.

Think - can the reader experience the emotion or scene in this poem or descriptive prose?

Writing a story based on colour - examples - 'A grey day', 'A red letter day', 'They were green with envy', 'I never thought that I would see some one purple with rage', 'Feeling Blue'.

For the story: Set the scene, Place the characters.

Choose the point at which the story is brought to a close.

Think - what does this story tell the reader?

Drama

Aim to display the effect of a colour and its mood. This is probably best as a group activity with each group selecting a different colour.

Use background music or vocal sound to work to.

Use body shape, changing speed and movement to 'awaken' the colour. Bring the action to a crescendo and allow it to become subdued (or cut it off at its height).

Points to discuss

Shape and movement - rounded, spiked, solid, fluid, ragged?

Speed and movement - fast rhythm, slow rhythm, haphazard, darting, flicking, tumbling?

To Consider

Added colour - will you use lighting or coloured material to add to the effectiveness of the action?

Capturing - will you video the results as each group performs?

Time - will you set a time for each piece - perhaps 3 minutes?

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I wish you success and enjoyment in exploring the theme Colour.

Ann Sharples - author of the 'Violet Jelly' trilogy.