### **Mr David Bradshaw**

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# Bookmarks, book reviews and book cases!

#### Context

Holcombe Brook Primary School is a medium sized Primary School in Bury, England. We have 280 pupils with a 50 part-time place private nursery on site. 90% of the pupils are White British with 7% eligible for Free School meals and 18% children entitled to Pupil Premium funding.



## **OU** Research inspiration and rationale

Based on the Teachers and Readers research (Cremin et al., 2014) the area that I felt required further development within my classroom environment and day-to-day teaching was:

#### Reading communities that are reciprocal and interactive.

It was clear that there was a distinct lack of interest from some of the children in September and I had in mind several strategies that would engage both boys and girls. I also wanted to target the gifted and avid readers because I knew if they had the confidence and the opportunities to share their love of books, this would inspire the rest of the group.

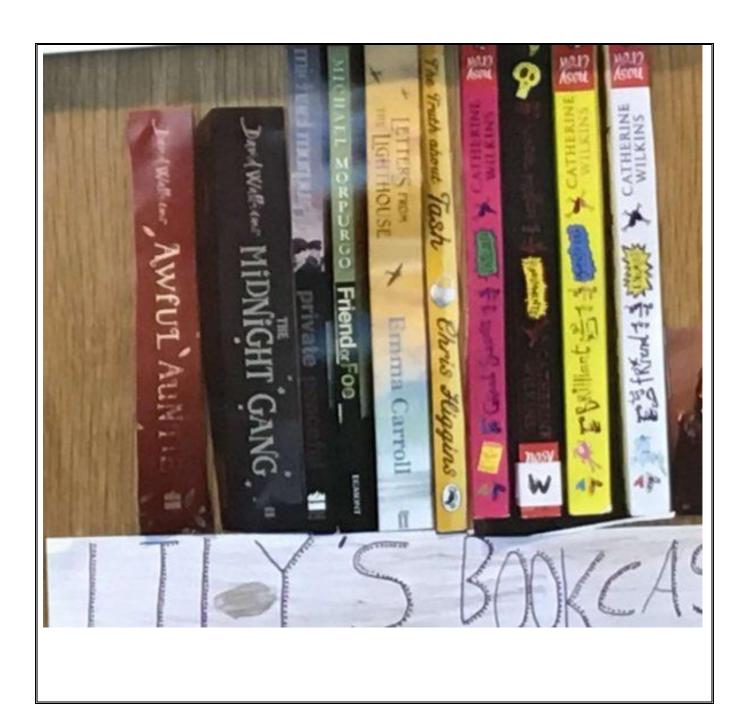
#### **Aims**

My aims were to create a variety of opportunities for the children to share the books they were currently reading using ICT as well as a range of speaking and listening skills. It was a new class and they had all joined year 5/6 from three different teachers, not only was what I had planned a chance for them to get to know each other's personalities but to also find out which books were worthy of reading. It would also be an opportunity for me to find out their reading habits and also inspire my teaching and the choices I would make when planning my literacy or reading aloud to the class.

#### **Outline**

At Holcombe Brook we strive to instil a love of reading. In Golden Gate class we used a hat-trick of ideas which reminded children about reading for pleasure and the joy that great books can bring.

The children created the following: bookmarks using Microsoft publisher, book cases on the wall to display the latest books that they have read and book reviews using the green screen and doink app. (Video on our youtube channel).







### **Impact**

The children each created a wooden looking book case, once they had read a book and shared it with their reading group, we photocopied the spine and added it to their bookcase. Not only did this build the confidence of the individual, it also inspired the class and it became quite competitive as the children wanted to be the first to fill their bookcase!

The children loved creating their bespoke bookmarks and were heard to say that they couldn't wait to share it with their siblings and parents, as well as friends from other classes. Not only would they be showing these people their bookmarks but it would also enable them to share their book too (as well as motivate them to read another chapter!)

When the children had access to our brilliant green screen and the ipads, instantly you could see the excitement of the class – this was their chance to shine and tell the world, via our youtube channel, all about the latest book they had been reading. Teamwork was required and whilst the group were filming and editing, they were also saying, 'I'm going to read that book, it sounds great' and 'you can borrow my copy if you like,'. The discussions were informal and impactful. The children also knew that, it would be green screen time again in a few weeks and it would be great if they could have another book review ready to present.

I have very much enjoyed being part of the Bury OU / UKLA TRG, it has really opened my eyes to the needs of our pupils: to inspire, to listen, to facilitate. I received strong feedback from the pupils, parents and other members of staff and I am now excited to continue to use these strategies – plus others that have been shared – with my next class and our cluster of schools.

Mr. D. Bradshaw