

Y5 English

Writing - Summer Term Week 1

Your favourite place

- On your daily walk or exercise with your child, find a place or a space where nature is in abundance and where they feel calm and happy. Get your child to sit or stand in this place and soak in all that is around them using the five senses to help them – you might want to take a picture to help inspire their writing when you return home.
- If you have outdoor space at home, you might choose to do this in your garden, where you can spend a little longer sitting and sketching the surroundings – focusing in on any areas that are of particular interest e.g. a particular plant/tree or an animal.



Prepare for writing

After your walk, your child can spend some time continuing their sketch indoors (this is where a picture may come in handy). This might be as vast as an entire setting or a narrowed focus, such as a specific tree, plant or animal. Whilst your child is sketching, asking key questions will help them consider their landscape in greater detail. Talk for Writing is an excellent way for children to verbalise their thoughts before putting pen to paper.

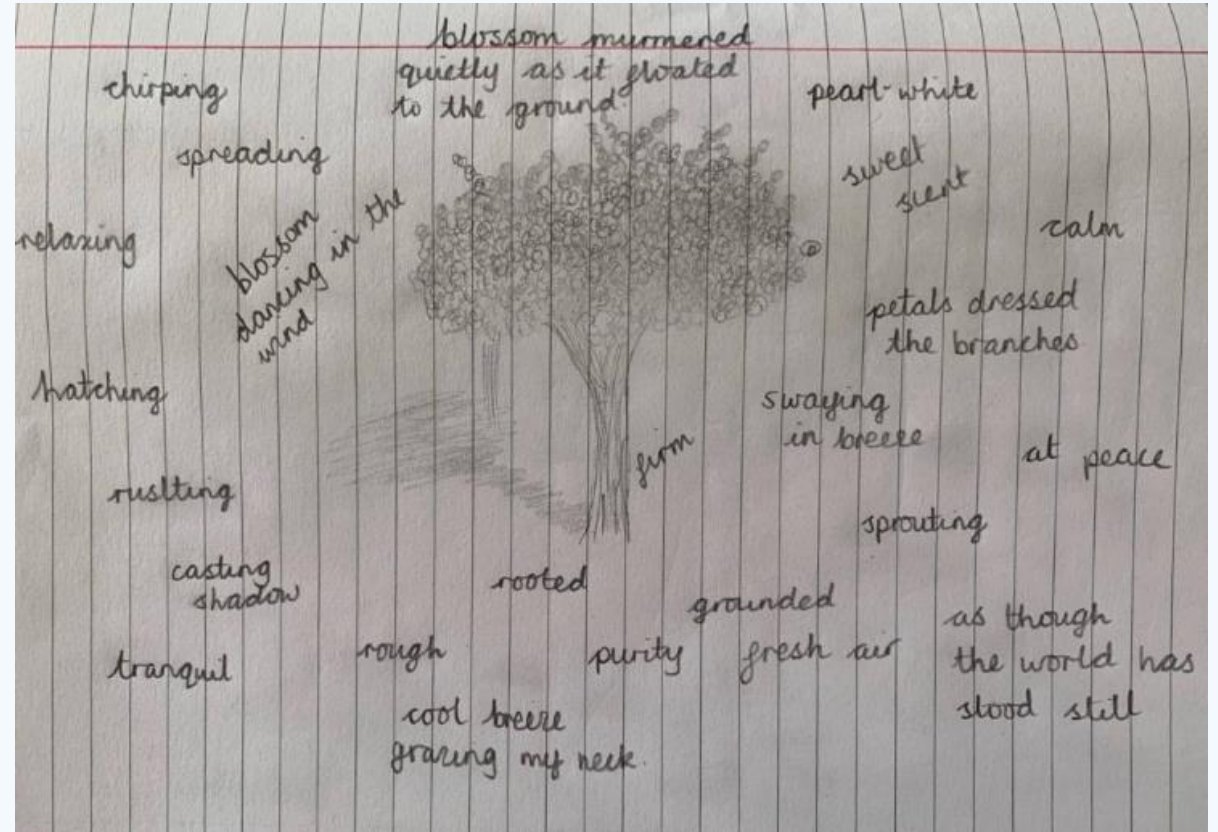
Prompts might include:

- What was the texture of that/What does it feel like to touch?
- If the wind blew, what sort of sound would it make?
- If you stepped on it, what sort of sound would it make?
- When it moves, how would you describe its movements?
- What colour is it?
- As you sit here, what can you hear?
- As you sit here, what can you smell or taste?
- When you are here, how does it make you feel? Why?

Initial Ideas

Now, once they have a sketch and have had some valuable talk-for-writing around these questions, your child will be bursting with thoughts and ideas around this landscape. At this point, begin to write some ideas around the sketch, considering the questions on the previous slide. These might be single words or they might be full sentences.

Try to include figurative language e.g. similes, metaphors and the five senses. These ideas will help form the basis of a piece of writing.



Ideas taken from:

<https://literacywithmissp.com/2020/04/08/14-my-favourite-place-guest-blog/#more-1388>

Plan your writing

First of all, consider how many paragraphs they would like - remembering that each paragraph must have a main focus (TipTop Paragraphs). For example, in paragraph one I will write about the landscape as a whole and in paragraph two I will focus on the trees. Once your child has this noted this rough plan in their head, or on a piece of paper, it will help to keep their thoughts and ideas focussed.

Now you are ready to write! This is where it can get messy, giving your child a scrap piece of paper to draft their ideas is a good way to encourage the true writing process. When writing a descriptive piece, it is important for your child to consider the structure of their writing.

To support the structure of the writing try to break each paragraph down into key sentences each with a specific focus. (For example, Description, Action, Dialogue, Where, Adverb, Verb, Rhetorical Questions, Simile or Metaphors). First, write a sentence focussing on description, a second sentence with action, a third with dialogue etc., until you've written a whole paragraph.



Good luck with your writing

Please send us some examples

Mrs Wilson & Mrs Ashley