
Learning outcomes:

- To respond to the work of a poet.
- To use ambitious vocabulary as a stimulus for creative writing.

National Curriculum links:

- LKS2 English composition - draft and write by progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures
- UKS2 English composition - draft and write by selecting appropriate vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning

You'll need:

- Access to the internet
- An android phone or tablet (to play the Raddlesham Mumps game)
- Worksheet One - downloadable from raddleshammumps.co.uk. The whole activity is available digitally at www.mbd.limited/education



You are going to listen to some very funny, scary and at times quite silly poetry, by poet Murray Lachlan Young. You will play a game, watch videos, and probably laugh your socks off (if you have socks on). Don't worry if you don't have socks, you are not going to need them! If you have an android tablet or phone, carry on reading.

You will be learning all about how to use language in a creative way and you will be learning new words. Some will be funny. Some will be happy. Some will be sad. You might get a chance to make words up. Making words up is fun too!

Don't be put off by all this talk of learning though...let's just concentrate on having fun!

First some fun. If you have an android tablet or phone continue to Step One below. If you don't, head straight to Step Two!

STEP ONE, LET'S PLAY A GAME:

You might need some help with the following instruction. If you do that's fine, we will wait just here! On your mobile phone/tablet, head to the Google Play store and search 'Raddlesham Mumps'. Or follow this link:-

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.YourCompany.RaddleshamMumps&hl=en>

When you have downloaded the game, have a go. You can play in pairs or groups if you are with other people. It's good to share. You can also play by yourself if there is nobody with you. You can always talk to people about it later! The game takes approximately 8-10 minutes to complete.

Once everyone has had a go, have a brief discussion about the game.

GRAB YOUR PAPER AND PEN It's time to write down a few thoughts about the game. Answer each of the

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questions below—try spending about 2 minutes on each question...

What did you like?

What would you change about the game?

Which of the objects can you remember?

Can you remember any of the words?

Finally, please feel free to write a review where you downloaded the game and tell us what you thought.

STEP TWO

The poet you have been listening to is Murray Lachlan Young. You can find out more about Murray here if you like—murraylachlanyoung.co.uk. We are now going to listen to one of his poems.

Head to the internet to watch 'Don't' (search Murray Lachlan Young *Don't* or use this link):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6qoMjYmw-Gw>



How was that? We hope you enjoyed that poem as much as Murray enjoyed recording it. We are going to ask you to do a little bit more work now, but it's not really work, it's just thinkingand writing.

Have a think about the poem you just heard. Put on your best thinking face and then write down your answers to the following questions. Again, we suggest a couple of minutes for each question. Off you go!

- What did you like about the poem?
- What was funny about the poem?
- What do you remember most about the poem?
- What did you notice about the way the poem was written?
- Did you notice words that rhyme? And words that repeated? Write a few examples..

STEP THREE

You probably noticed that often what's funny is when words that don't usually go together...go together!

So, now we want you to be creative, and to help us let's use Raddlesham Worksheet 1

In the first column, write down five things which you love, which are nice, which are special to you. It might be things like butterflies, chocolate cake or glitter.

Then, in the second column, write down five things which you hate, or you don't like, or which make you scared or squirm or which are horrible. They might be things like monsters, vampires, smelly socks etc.

You should end up with ten things in the table.

Now, everyone look at their words - five nice things on the left-hand side, five horrid things on the right-hand side. Maybe you want to say your words out loud? Go on, try it. Murray likes to say words out loud and now it's his job! Lucky Murray.

Now create some pairs from your words - pairs that really shouldn't go together (just like in the 'Don't' poem). Draw arrows to pair your ideas together. You should end up with five ideas (it doesn't matter if the horrid word comes first or last – that's up to you) e.g. vampire glitter, butterfly monsters etc

Once you are happy with your five ideas, write them out in the second table and say them out loud too!

Now comes the creative bit...take your five ideas and turn them into a short poem or story. You are not allowed to start with the words Once Upon A Time!! We suggest you spend at least TEN MINUTES, but feel free to spend some more time.

Once you have written a story, share them with your friends and family, and do read it out loud.

STEP FOUR—YOU WANT SOME MORE?

If you still want more poetry fun, why not end the session (and leading into the next session) with another of Murray's poems *Annie McClue - The Girl Who Would Not Flush The Loo* (search Murray Lachlan Young Annie McClue) or follow the link. No work attached to this one, just a treat to say goodbye (until next time)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQerZSWZ4hw>

The Mystery of Raddlesham Mumps written and performed by Murray Lachlan Young. Co-performers Joe Allen and Simone Lewis. Directed by Nina Hajjiyanni. Designed by Bek Palmer. Music by Arun Ghosh. Animation/VR by MBD Ltd

Associate Director Scott Hurran. Movement by Laura Biggs. Produced by Matthew Linley Creative Projects in association with Action Transport Theatre and Eastern Angles. Production photography Mike Kwasniak.

Educational resources developed by the Raddlesham Team based on our schools workshop programme. Advisor on Learning Resources Emily Smith. Additional writing and input MBD Ltd

