

Comments and feedback from Malmesbury Pageturners Project November-December 2012

Feedback from final session.

A small group of young people took part in this five week project. The book they selected was the London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd. Each week we focused on aspects of this excellent story using drama, writing, art, discussion, debate and games.

At the very end of the project, in a 'London Eye Mystery' game, everyone wrote comments on different aspects of the project.

What were your overall thoughts about this project?

It was great. Never had as much fun reading a book. Making new friends

My views:

Fun

Brilliant

Amazing

I really enjoyed it! I loved it. I thought it would be awful but it exceeded all my expectations.

I think Pageturners project is so fun, I loved it. It's so friendly. Highlight of my week. So much friendly.

I loved this club beause...

**It was yummy*

**It's fun*

**It's different*

**We do fun things*

I would like this to go on forever. I never want to leave. I got to make new friends. It would be fabulous if we could do this more than once a week. This place is so amazing. I knew less people before I was in this club but now I'm here it's good as I have more friends. I would like this club to go on for a lot longer.

My views on the course: I enjoyed it very much, it was fun and I liked all the different activities.

Interesting – but my mum did sign me up by accident. An original.

What were your favourite activities?

My favourite activities in order...

- 1) Colouring on the big paper*
- 2) Debating*

- 3) *Guessing what the picture was and explaining it*
- 4) *Making the puppets*
- 5) *Picking the books*
- 6) *Seeing what other people like and do and hearing about them.*

My favourite was debating because I like putting up an argument.

My favourite activity is when we made the character because we could show our artistic side.

Debating; because we stood up for someone else's feelings and opinions.

Creating spoons [characters using spoons!]: we had fun and let our personalities free by doing it.

The agree/disagree wall game and the scenarios.

I enjoyed making the characters because we could do whatever we wanted to.

What were your least favourite activities?

(We discussed this one as a group)

Three of the group said it was the script-writing because no one was very keen to act out their scripts afterwards.

Three of the group said they didn't like the "who I'm NOT" tick sheet activity which was in preparation for making a character that was NOT them. They liked the idea, but would have rathered tick who they were – they felt a bit confused.

They liked everything else.

Did you enjoy the book and were you glad we chose *The London Eye Mystery*. (We discussed this one as a group)

Everyone said they did really like the book. Two people had finished it, one person was half way and the others were still just a few chapters in but wanted to continue. They said they found it hard to make time to read but did like the story and all the characters.

One girl said that while she liked the book, she would have preferred something more mature – she felt this book may have been aimed at a slightly younger age group. The others didn't agree with this, they felt the book was good for their age.

Would you do the project again (and why did you do it in the first place?)?

They all said they would definitely do the project again and they thought it was a shame that not everyone turned up. They said they thought lots more people would really have enjoyed it.

I asked what had made them choose to come and most said it was their parents idea, they hadn't been particularly keen. One girl actually said she had been afraid that was "going to be dire." But that she had actually loved it and really looked forward to coming. Only one person said she had chosen to come because she was into reading and writing. They all said the project was nothing like they expected – it was much better.

Feedback from other sessions:

What have liked so far.. (from week 1 and 3)

Agree/disagree game

The voting

Drama

The conversations

Learnt how different people are

I enjoyed all the games. I would like to do more of the sheet and run games.

I liked making up the character and making up the script

13th Dec – what have you enjoyed most this week?

Debating x 5

Enjoyed debating

Chinese whisper game [the theme this week was about listening]

I liked being the judge and all the debating

Marks out of ten for the book so far:

9/10

8/10

9/10

6/10

(A couple didn't write a score)

List of activities

Choosing the book – voting and discussion different aspects. Judging a book by it's cover (or not).

An agree/disagree activity about perceptions of others – how do we judge others?

Doodling on a large table cloth whilst hearing bits of the book – some evaluation was carried out this way too.

Writing something about yourself on character cut-outs – and thinking about outer appearance vs what you are like inside.

Who you are NOT (This was from the book “Being someone you’re not”)

Doing the scripts with funny things people say that mean something different than it sounds (Ted, the main character takes everything literally. He can’t understand expressions like “that’s really up my street”)

Creating a character you is NOT you

Putting your new characters in situations/scenarios to see how they’d react

Making the characters as puppets

London Eye ultimate breakfast

Creating the setting for a group story using different aspects of the London Eye Mystery and some of the activities we have done.

The listening game (drawing). All about listening to people directly – how a message gets changed as it gets passed along.

Book personality profiles and discussion about types of books

Heard about Ted’s theories and how no one listened to him (he was the one at the scene of the mystery but he wasn’t listened to. The book featured how adults don’t always listen to young people’s opinions).

Discussed different situations and whether children/young people should be asked their opinions and why?

Debate about whether adults listen.. team Ted and team Adult (in costume and in character!)

Teds habits and your own annoying habits.

The London Eye Mystery board game with team challenges, questions and activities based around everything we have done. (Plus evaluation).