English home learning tasks: 01/06/2020

Focus: Writing horror

* Monday

Outcome: Listening and responding to an audio story.

Task: Show children the “The Ghost Thief: Podcast Episode 1” audio story (on active learn). Explain that this is an audio story, and ask if they can think of similar forms of media (podcasts, radio stories or audio books for example). Listen to “The Ghost Thief: Podcast Episode 1”. Talk with your child about what they thought about this episode. Talking points can be:

* What does Ben think about the ghost?
* How do his thoughts change? Why?
* How does the author build up a spooky atmosphere?

Once that is done, let your children listen to it again, and have them record what sound effects they have heard. Next, using the sounds they recorded, ask your child to create a short storyboard/comic of the podcast, making sure to include the sounds in it.

* Tuesday:

Outcome: To explore the characters in detail.

Task: Listen to “The Ghost Thief: podcast episode 2” (on active learn). Discuss with your child what could have happened to the tent and who might have taken the string.

Now let them read through The Ghost Thief ebook up to episode 2. Ask them how the ebook is different. Discuss with your child the characters Aidan and Ben. After a little discussion, give them the worksheet to complete, writing a short paragraph to describe each of the boys.

* Wednesday:

Outcome: To practice reading out loud in an engaging way.

Task: Listen to “The Ghost Thief: podcast episode 3”, then discuss the ending of the story with your child. Talking points could be:

* Were you surprised?
* Is the mystery solved?
* How does the author build a sense of tension?

Listen to it again then ask your child to think about how the narrator told the story. Did he speak quietly or loudly? Why? What effect did it have? Did the narrator speak quickly, or quietly? Why? What effect did it have? Etc.

Have them read and practice telling the story of The Ghost Thief: Episode 3 from the ebook. Allow them to read it out to you a few times, giving them some points of improvement, to make the story sound spookier. Perhaps you could record their effort for them to see and think on ways to improve it?

* Thursday:

Outcome: To build up their vocab.

Task: Show them todays resource “Terrified” Ask them to spot the words that are similar to terrified. Discuss any unfamiliar word with your children. Have them think of similar words for “froze” and write them down. Now ask your child to read pages 8-11 and 15-16 and write down all the ways the author the author described fear and sounds. Have your child think of any other ideas and write those down too, building up a little word bank of spooky descriptive words.

* Friday:

Outcome: To start planning their spooky podcast.

Task: Explain to your child that they will now plan to write their own spooky podcast.

Have them draft “Episode 1” of the spooky story, using their descriptive words that they thought up on the previous task. Once they have written up their first draft of the story, help your child brainstorm ideas for sounds to add to in there story and where to make it more spooky.