English home learning tasks: 18/05/2020

Focus: Poetry

* Monday:

Outcome: To explore and ask questions about poem

Task: Read “What are Heavy” with your child (In the Christina Rossetti poem book on ActiveLearn). Check with your child if there are any words that they are unsure of. If there are, ask them if they can make a guess to what the word may mean. Then talk about how the poem made the child feel. Have them note down any feelings that the poem may have triggered and why.

Now read and continue “Who Has Seen the Wind” (see worksheet for today) then have your child share what they came up with and discuss their choices.

* Tuesday:

Outcome: Write a poem based on “What is Pink?”

Task: Read “What is Pink?” from the Christina Rossetti poem book. Ask your child which answers they liked best and why. Explain that they are now going to write their own poem in the style of “What is Pink?” Have them keep the first two and last two lines of the poem, writing up their own lines for the rest of it. They can keep the colours that already are in the poem, or come up with their own. The poem does not have to rhyme.

* Wednesday:

Outcome: To look at homophones, homonyms, and puns.

Task: Read “Potato Clock” from the Roger McGough poem book. Discuss/explain word play to your child. Explain that using homophones (words that sound the same but spelled differently) and homonyms (words that are spelled and sound the same, but have different meanings). Children then complete worksheet on puns.

* Thursday:

Outcome: To explore how puns are used in “In case of fire”

Task: Read “In Case of Fire” from the Roger McGough poem book with your child. Ask if they can see/understand the wordplay. Explain that this is called a “found language” poem. Found language is a poem that uses phrases and words from everyday expressions or that are found around in certain environments. Give some more examples (e.g. Beware of dog). Have your child create a list of “found language”. Once they have done that, ask your child to see if they can write more lines for the “In case of Fire” poem.

* Friday:

Outcome: To draft and write their own play on words style poem.

Task: Explain to your child that they will now try to create their own language-play poem. Read through the previous word play and pun-based poems. Have your child choose one of these poems to use as a model. In that style of the poem, have your child come up with ideas and write their own poem. Remind them that the poem doesn’t have to be long, or rhyme, or even be particularly funny, but rather the focus should be the structure and the clever use of language.