

Blackout Poetry

All you need:

Old/unwanted book.



Pens/pencils (the more colours, the better).

This is a great exercise to spark ideas and explore language in a creative writing lesson.

1. Find a book that you don't mind ripping apart, and give one page per child (ensuring that all content from the pages are child-friendly).
2. Instruct your class to circle or highlight words and phrases they find interesting and to cross out any parts of the page they don't find interesting.
3. Join the words and phrases together to create your own piece of poetry (remind your class that poems do not always rhyme) or a new story.

The idea is to change the meaning of a piece of writing and identify emotive language.

It's a great opportunity to practice and demonstrate knowledge of different types of words (nouns, adjectives, connectives, etc) and a useful technique to prompt ideas for a child's own piece of writing.



Encourage your class to read aloud their poem or story to the rest of the class. Ask questions about what could happen next in the narrative or what kind of poem it is.
Use colours to decorate the page with doodles and illustrations.