



Literacy WAGOLL

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10

WAGOLL ideas to

improve your

Literacy lessons!

Volume 1

Literacy WAGOLL

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Use a WAGOLL!

What is a WAGOLL?

A WAGOLL stands for 'What a Good One Looks Like'. If we want our children to become *outstanding writers* then they need to see *outstanding writing* or at least writing that models what they are working towards. They set the standard for the quality of work needed in order to achieve the lesson objective.

How do I use it in lessons?

You can use a WAGOLL at any time during lessons and in many different ways, including the following:

- 1) Draw 'Success Criteria' from a WAGOLL to form the steps needed to achieve a task.
- 2) Use it to develop peer and self-assessment - get them to mark your work!
- 3) Introduce a new style of writing.
- 4) Use a child's own piece of writing as a WAGOLL to motivate.
- 5) Children can 'Magpie' or steal ideas for their own writing.

What A
Good One
Looks Like!

What is the impact?

WAGOLLs can have many impacts on your teaching and learning such as:

- Clear understanding of expectations and goals.
- Growing independence in all pupils.
- Inspiration for their own writing.
- Develop self-worth of their own writing.

How about a WABOLL?

Use a 'bad one' and get the children to pick out the mistakes and up-level it together!

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Annotate Texts!

Why annotate a text?

Annotating a text is where the children list thoughts and ideas next to a text they have just read. This could include picking out grammar; identifying and labeling the meaning of words; sharing their thoughts on a writer's choices or discussing a shared reading focus.

How do I use this in lessons?

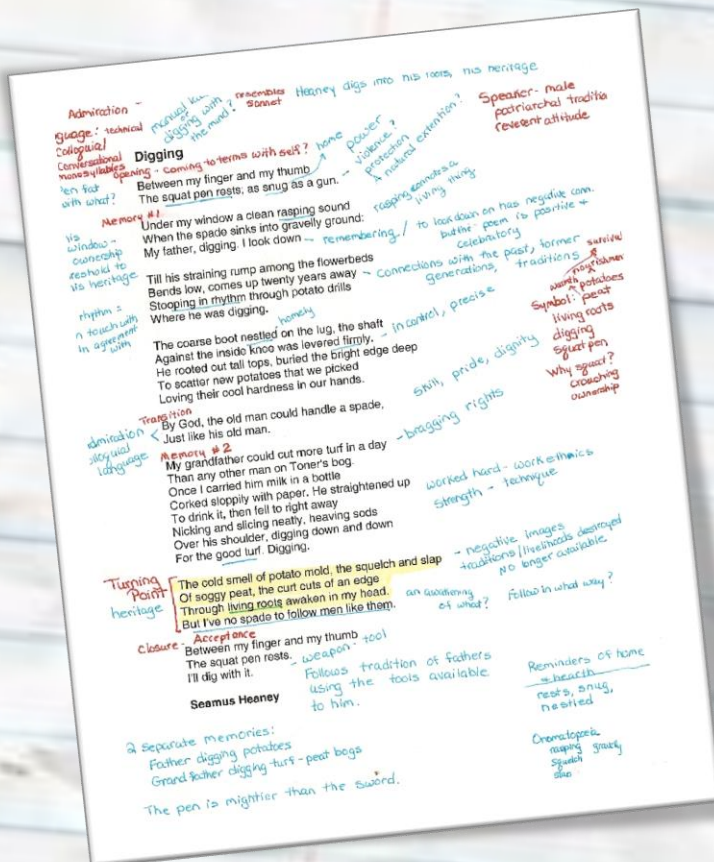
This skill can be developed and used at any point of a Literacy unit. It can be used to:

- Pick out grammar
- Identify the meaning of words
- Share thoughts and feelings on a character or event
- Discuss a shared reading assessment focus
- Pick out key vocabulary
- Identify sentence structures that they wish to 'Magpie' or steal.

What is the impact?

By allowing children to annotate texts you are allowing children to:

- Read between the lines of the text
- Develop their understanding of word and phrase choices
- Understand that books have purpose and aims



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Self-Assessment!

Why develop self-assessment?

Developing self-assessment is more important than ever. One because it is now a key part to the new English Curriculum and more importantly because it develops a child's independence in self-correcting their own and others work.

How do I use this in lessons?

- Green and pink their work - children highlight parts of their work they are proud of (green) and areas they wish to improve (pink).
- Use a 'me, my friend, my teacher sheet' - allow time for children read through their writing looking for specific Success Criteria that the children need to have included in order to achieve the objective (see picture).
- Use children's work as examples of WAGOLLs and WABOLLs - spend a period of a lesson reflecting and discussing the strengths and weaknesses.

	Success Criteria	Me	Friend	Mr. C
1	Use full stops and capital letters.			
2	Use adjectives.			
3	Change some description.			

“Smiley face,”

straight face,

wiggly face!”

What is the impact?

Children develop:

- Independence - they mark their own which saves you time!
- A life skill - we all edit and revise our own writing.
- Children gain a greater understanding of text structure.
- Pupils develop their reading skills at the same time.

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Split Text!

What is a split text?

A split text is simply cutting a story/narrative/text up into different pieces of paper. These can be placed around the classroom, different tables or around the entire school.

How do I use this in lessons?

- Hide the texts around the school grounds and go on a story hunt. Each part can be placed near an object relevant to the story.
- Get children to order the paragraphs to develop text cohesion understanding.
- Piece together a non-fiction text to develop layout.
- Each group can have one part and has to retell it to the class in order to share the full story.
- Sort the pieces into a story mountain to help understanding of a narrative.

What is the impact?

By doing this:

- Children have to read the text in order to complete the task.
- Pupils' understanding of text structure is developed.
- A story in a different environment brings it to life!
- Team work skills are developed to piece the text back together.

Where?

Where next?

What goes wrong?

How is it resolved?

Where last?

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Celebration of Learning!

What is it?

By celebrating learning, children are motivated to write and read. This can be done in many ways but simply shares children's products from writing lessons and celebrates reading enthusiasts whilst motivating more reluctant readers and writers to achieve!

“...and the writer of
the week is...”

What is the impact?

By doing this:

- Children are motivated to achieve.
- Writing is given meaning - we write to share it with someone!
- Great learning is shared with other children as a WAGOLL to set expectations.
- A positive ethos of writing is created because children's efforts are valued.

How do I use this in my classroom?

- 1) Blow the WAGOLL up on the copier and display it in a prominent place in school for everybody to read!
- 2) Copy it onto the back of your weekly newsletter so all parents get to read it!
- 3) Read an extract from the WAGOLL out loud in a school assembly for everyone to hear.
- 4) The author gets some form of special status for the week -e.g. a writing wizard hat!
- 5) Post a weekly WAGOLL blog so their writing is live on the internet!
- 6) Record them reading the WAGOLL and post it as a video on YouTube for people to comment on.
- 7) Let children leave post-it notes next to the WAGOLL with positive praise for the author.
- 8) Create a WAGOLL book to place in the office entrance at school. Over the year, the book will be filled with amazing writing.
- 9) Why not take an image of the WAGOLL and send it to us and we will post it on twitter for everybody to see!

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Speaking and Listening!

What is it?

Speaking and listening is the foundation for learning to speak, read and write English! If children learn to say exciting sentences, then they will learn to write them too! There are a variety of approaches that give children opportunities to share ideas, speak and role play.



What is the impact?

By doing this:

- Children learn to speak English with grammatical accuracy!
- Ideas are clearly developed for writing.
- Children understand characters and authors more.
- Critical thinking opportunities encourage higher level thoughts and greater progress.

What strategies can I use in my classroom?

- 1) The Boxing Match Debate - Children are put into for and against groups. One representative from each group takes part in the boxing debate whilst the other members of the group provide the 'boxer' with more arguments.
- 2) Interview - One child pretends to be a character whilst the other interviews them about an event from the story.
- 3) The Setting/character Change - Children are given a simple task to mime such as eating a meal or walking down the road. Then they react to changing character but doing the same task or a change of music.
- 4) Freeze Frame Thought Bubble - Children freeze frame scenes from a story and then state out loud their thoughts at that moment.
- 5) The documentary - Children turn an information text into a visual documentary.
- 6) Bulls eye - Children place vocabulary on a bull's-eye board. The closer to the middle they are, the more important they are.

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A Story Journey!

What is it?

The idea surrounds taking the children on a journey as a story is told! WAGOLLs can be cut into sections and placed in various places around the classroom, school or even an external location such as a park or school trip. The teacher and children then move through the story, reading the paragraphs as a journey.

What is the impact?

By doing this:

- Stories and narratives are brought to life!
- Children are engaged more with the text.
- Pupils are eager to predict what happens next.
- Settings and objects from the story are brought to life.

What could this look like in school?

- 1) The story is pinned around a hall or room.
- 2) Objects from the story are near the next section.
- 3) A school trip could be linked to the story by using the trip location for the story journey!
- 4) QR Codes (see below) can be used to create links to parts of the story that you have previously videoed.
- 5) The Aurasma APP (see below) can be used to create visual links around the classroom to parts of the story.



Click on the
images to find
out more!

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Music in Literacy!

What is it?

Music plays a major part in many of our children's lives. With the growing celebrity culture influencing our young people on a day to day basis, it is vital that this music is harnessed in class. It is easy to forget that music and lyrics are a form of Literacy and can be integrated into the English curriculum to bring stories to life and even be used to pick our grammar and sentence structures!

“...*Lucy in the sky
with diamonds...*”

What is the impact?

By doing this:

- Makes links to modern culture!
- Music and rhyme can assist ELL pupils.
- Music videos are a great visual for writing inspiration.
- A positive ethos of writing is created
Children find it easier to learn lyrics to music and learning sentence structures.

How do I use this in my classroom?

- 1) The Musical WAGOLL! - Why not play different types of music and sounds whilst reading a story. You could use sound tracks from films that change as the story grows in tension or wonder.
- 2) Use song lyrics - It is easy forget that lyrics in a song are a brilliant form of poetry and literacy. This would be a great start to a Literacy unit and an excellent WAGOLL to start with. For example 'Lucy in the Sky' by the Beatles paints an image of an imaginary world full of strange objects...
- 3) Poetry - With the growing focus of poetry within the new English curriculum- more specifically children's ability to reciting poetry. Music offers a stimulus for rhythm, familiar lyrics, words and phrases.
- 4) Use 'writing music' on YouTube to set a focused atmosphere during lessons.

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Working Displays!

What can I have on my display?

- Pocket folders with vocabulary.
- QR Codes to setting videos and character interviews.
- WAGOLL sentences and texts to set expectations.
- Images of characters and settings.
- Problem of the day to create discussion
- Unit objective displayed throughout the unit.
- Punctuation examples
- The class story plan!
- Ambitious vocabulary discovered
- A visual learning journey of objectives
- Success criteria or a writing toolkit for the genre.

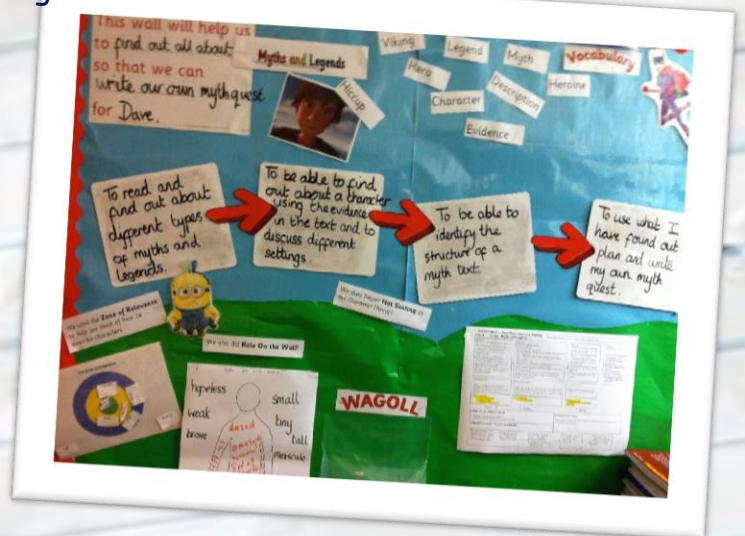
What is it?

Working displays and walls have been a key part of most classrooms for many years but sometimes using them fully, in order to have the biggest impact, is challenging! The main aim of a working display is to share children's learning, idea starters and other useful resources to support a pupil's learning. Overall, their purpose is to provide a useful teaching resource in the classroom!

What is the impact?

By doing this:

- Children understand and see a visual learning journey from start to finish.
- Ideas are shared more easily!
- Independence is encouraged.
- Rewards children for good work!



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Reading Areas!

What is it?

Reading areas have been around for decades but not always have they had an impact on the teaching and learning of reading and writing. A reading area's aim is to encourage children to engage with texts in order to become an effective independent reader.

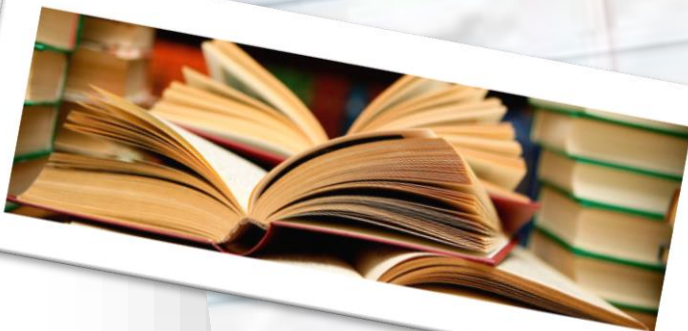
What is the impact?

By doing this:

- Children are motivated to read more.
- Pupils question themselves over the book they read.
- They gain a greater understanding of personal reading skills that they need to develop.
- Spelling and writing can be improved.

How can I make my reading area great?

- 1) A relevant, high interest theme is always good to get children wanting to sit in there with a book.
- 2) Varied and modern texts that will attract children to open a book.
- 3) Extreme reading - Once they have completed a book, take a picture of them reading somewhere strange and display it as a reward!
- 4) Key question prompts to encourage discussions and high level thinking.
- 5) Allow children to choose where and how they sit - every book lover has their favourite spot!
- 6) A book review system - When a child finishes a book, let them write something great or not so great about it and pin it up for other children to see - they may choose that book next!
- 7) Children create a question or two about the book for the next reader.
- 8) Make it a secret space where children can drift away into another world!



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About Literacy WAGOLL!

Who are we?

We are a group of English National Curriculum teachers who needed a website where example texts could be found with ease... so we made one!

Each text is written by a teacher and so is designed for use in the primary classroom. They are in word format so they can be edited and changed to suit different key stages and abilities. These texts should be used within literacy units as an aid to support children's reading and writing. Although we proof read our texts, there may be some minor errors and so it is always worth checking the texts before using them in class.

“...Literacy
WAGOLL is an
amazing website
idea!...”

FREE Literacy
resources for
primary
teachers!

What is our aim?

Our aim is to provide and encourage the sharing of FREE literacy resources for teachers and pupils to access in order to learn, progress, develop and enjoy! We also wish to develop a social network of teachers across the globe to share ideas and develop our practice as a team!

We wish to encourage writing in the classroom and at home and want to incorporate a variety of teaching approaches in order to support all pupils writing!

**Free resources for teachers
made by teachers!**



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