

27 June 2008

Wonderwords!

Wonderwords has been developed by a team of actors and poets working with Seven Stories, the Centre for Children's Books and funded by Cultural Hubs Durham.

Children and their teachers at four schools and a library across County Durham have been participating in the project which is now being offered at Seven Stories for two unique sessions On Monday 7 and 14 July 2008.

Wonderwords is an interactive performance and creative writing session which brings poetry and wordplay to life for children in Years 3 to 7.

Facilitated by actors in role as *Travelling Poeteers*, each session includes interactive performances as well as imaginative games and activities leading to creative poetry writing. Children will meet poems old and new as the Travelling Poeteers inspire them to play with words and write their own poetry.

Carey Fluker Hunt, Creative Development Manager at Seven Stories says: "It's great to see how much the children are enjoying this project. With *Wonderwords*, they're active, playing games and exploring words and ideas. So when it comes to writing their own poems, they've got loads to say. From what their teachers tell us, the children are choosing to read poetry books, too. And we always love to hear about children reading for pleasure!"

Each *Wonderwords* session lasts ninety minutes and is for a maximum of 30 children, i.e. one class group. Follow-up materials will be provided to support teachers in making the most of the session back in class afterwards.

Each session is delivered by two facilitators, and the class teacher is expected to be present and take part in activities throughout the session.

For school bookings contact Liz Paton or Jill Goodwin on 0845 271 0777 or email:
schools@sevenstories.org.uk

Seven Stories are now taking school bookings for September 2008 for the new exhibition ***From Toad Hall to Pooh Corner***. For further information visit
www.sevenstories.org.uk.

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Note to Editor: Pictured are pupils from Burnopfield Primary, Ludworth Primary, Cassop Primary and St Joseph's RC Primary in Coundon.

Poetry created in the project so far:

JACK FROST

Jacky fast as frost
A lightning of a blizzard
Cool as a winter wonderland
Kicking people with his icy feet.

Frosty as a frenzy
Raging as a wolf
Over a windy sky
Stealing heat
Tickling people's feet.

By Andrew

THE CLOTH ON THE
WASHING LINE

The cloth on the washing line
Looks like a light shimmering wave.

The cloth on the washing line
Looks like a pirate ship
Rushing through the sea.

By Louise

THE POEM ABOUT ME
STUCK ON A POEM

All the time
I try to make
A poem,, but my head
Goes blank.
I never
had a
thing
in my mind,
not
a
thing.
It
was
so noisy
I
still
could
not
do it.

By Sophie

MY PHONE

My phone is everything.
I
use
it
24/7.
(I would if I could.)

It's pink and white,
A girl's delight.
But
Unfortunately, I
dropped it.

The battery's dead.

By Rebekkah