

English: KS2

A Tale of Two Sextons: Write a Ghost Story

In school Activity: Teacher Notes



Curriculum Links:

English – spoken language and composition, understanding fiction and non-fiction, writing for an identified audience, comprehension

History – as part of an in depth Local History study, what life was like here in the past.

Drama – develop a script and role-play based on the story

Music – explore sounds to create a suitable sound picture for your story/performance. Explore musical genres ie: film music, classical music

RE – history of religions

Suggested prior knowledge:

Explore the key differences between fiction and non-fiction. Watch **Writing a Ghost Story: Graveyard** from **TES Resources** and discuss what you hear/see/feel. Read ghost stories. Use our website to find out more about the history of the site.

Activity Objective:

To develop a fictional story/ghost story/event based upon factual information. Take ideas from the book: **The Lye and Wollescote Cemetery and Chapels** by Jean Weston and Marlene Price.

Key Vocabulary:

Sexton, chapel, cemetery, Anglican, non-conformist, creepy, scary, haunted

Introduction:

Outline the history of Lye and Wollescote Cemetery and Chapel. Talk about the roles of cemeteries and who works there today and in the past. What does “Anglican” and “non-conformist” mean in this context? Why might the men have been at odds with each other?

Main Task: Read together and discuss the information. Answer the questions to understand more about the facts behind the characters. Share and discuss. In small groups, develop the characters. What do you think they are like, how do they look, how might they feel etc. Develop a short story based on these characters.

Plenary: Share your stories and give feedback

Suggested Follow up and Extension Activities:

Develop stories into short performances with developed character profiles and scripts. Record and evaluate. **Send** to us for use on our website!

Use the **Story Starters sheets** to develop new stories based on the cemetery

Materials required:

A Tale of Two Sextons Information & Questioning sheet

Character grid

Images of the Cemetery and Chapel (See **Image Bank**)

Post-it notes/flip chart

Whiteboard/pencils/paper

Useful websites:

www.literacyshed.com - for creative writing story starters

www.scholastic.com/teachers/story-starters/

www.tes.co.uk/resources/teachers-tv-writing-a-ghost-story-graveyard/