**What to do today**

*IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.*

**1. Read a poem**

* Read **Hold Fast to Dreams.** What is the message of this poem?
* Re-read it, really thinking about each line.
* What do you like about this poem? Is there anything that you dislike? What patterns can you spot?

**2. Revise metaphors**

* Use the *Revision Card*to remind yourself about metaphors and similes.
* Write a sentence to remind yourself what a metaphor is and a sentence to remind yourself what a simile is.

**3. Plan and write a Poem.**

* Plan a poem called, ‘Life Without Dreams’.
* On the *Planning Frame* write metaphors for a life without dreams and verbs that could show dreams ending. Use the *Ideas Sheets* or think of your own ideas.
* Now try turning your ideas into a poem. Choose your favourite ideas and see how they could fit and flow together.

Well done. Share your poems with a grown-up. Show them the verbs that you have chosen and the metaphors that you have used.

**Try the Fun-Time Extras**

* Share your poem with somebody else. Send it to them or make a recording so they can hear you or watch you.
* Make an illustration for your poem.
* Read Langston Hughes’s Poem – *A Dream Deferred***.** What do you think deferred must mean?

***Hold Fast to Dreams***

Hold fast to dreams

For if dreams die

Life is a broken-winged bird

That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams

For when dreams go

Life is a barren field

Frozen with snow.



Langston Hughes,

*The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes*,

Vintage, 1995

***REVISION CARD: Metaphors***

A metaphor is a comparison in which a place, person or thing is described as if it was another entirely different but similar thing.

*Ben is a greedy pig*.

Ben is not actually a pig - he’s a boy - but the comparison to a greedy pig is very effective in telling us that Ben obviously tucks into his food like a farm animal at meal times!

Metaphors very often contain the verbs is or are, was or were.

*The stars were jewels in the night sky*.

*Life is a journey*.

*The children in my class are a dream*.

*He was a big baby, moaning about the weather like that*.

Metaphors are different to similes

Similes describe people, places, situations or things by comparing them to something that they are like.

Similes either contain the word like or the phrase as…as…

*Ben ate like a snuffling pig.*

*Ben was as greedy as a pig.*

*In* ***Hold Fast to Dreams****, Langston Hughes uses two metaphors to describe a life without dreams as if it is something else.*

a broken-winged bird

a barren field, frozen with snow

**Planning Frame**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Verbs for dreams ending** | **Metaphors for a life without dreams** |

**Ideas Sheet**

|  |
| --- |
| ***Possible verbs***  wither decay bleed break shatter rupture implode collapse break apart shrivel fracture crack fade empty dry up blanch ossify calcify darken close shut down evaporate disperse scatter are extinguished |
| ***Possible metaphors***  *Something…*  deserted poisoned abandoned shuttered broken cracked homeless leafless sunless empty splintered unloved cheerless unfinished lost smashed snuffed out frozen buried |



**Life Without Dreams**

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***A Dream Deferred (Harlem)***

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up

Like a raisin in the sun?

Or fester like a sore–

And then run?

Does it stink like rotten meat?

Or crust and sugar over

Like a syrupy sweet?

Maybe it just sags like a heavy load.

Or does it explode?

Langston Hughes,

*The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes*,

Vintage, 1995