

## Lesson 2: Being a reader in Newham

### Teacher Notes

*To enhance the impact of the Blether, children could be invited to bring in the book they have been enjoying reading for pleasure most recently (may or may not be a school book).*

1. Begin the lesson with a 'book blether' - a chance for children to share what they have been reading recently. All adults to join in with this too, and learn about each other's reading.
  - a. "What have you learned about what other people are reading?"
  - b. "Has anybody heard about a book they'd like to read too now?"
2. Explain that, as book talk like this shows, reading is social. It makes us who we are.
  - a. Group children into threes. Give half of the groups the first sheet (with quotations from Ada, David and Suresh) and the other half the second sheet (with quotations from John, Vaseem and Mayuri).
  - b. Children to read these together in their threes.
  - c. Then, put each three with a different three, and have the children line up to face each other. Children to each read one of the six quotations, paying attention to expression - how might the people be feeling as they share these little memories?
3. Move onto Deborah Peck's video
  - a. Deborah gives introduction on video to the library, and gives her own perspective. Make link between Newham Bookshop and the Libraries clear.
  - b. Deborah sets the task for pupils on the video; they are to create their own short reflection (a paragraph in length, roughly 4 or 5 sentences) in response to these four prompt questions.
    - i. Which books do you like most?
    - ii. How do you feel when you read?
    - iii. Where do you get your books?
    - iv. Do people in your family read too?"
4. Focus on quote from Karima Turay Davis  
**READING IS THE ULTIMATE ARMOUR AGAINST ANYTHING IN LIFE.**  
Children to reflect on this idea, understanding ways in which what we read can protect and support us in our lives.
  - a) Children to work in their threes to 'arm' themselves to read.
  - b) One pupil to lay on paper, and other two children to draw around them.
  - c) Draw an outline of basic armour and a helmet onto the outline.
  - d) The teams of three to cover the armour in reflections and book suggestions
    - i) **HELMET** - how reading can give us wisdom and inspiration, examples of books that have taught us things
    - ii) **BODY PLATE** - how reading can make us feel different, and example of books that have helped us to feel better or understand ourselves.
    - iii) **ARMS and LEGS** - how reading has helped us to do things - perhaps focus on non-fiction and instructional writing, game guides and so on
5. Round off the session by reviewing what the groups have done - what books did they come up with?