

Session Outline

Session leader: Anita Lawrence
Co-presenter / accompanying teacher: N/A
<p>Session title: A Lived Religious Experience – How can we use children’s literature to bring the lived religious experience to life in the classroom?</p>
<p>Key questions addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the most effective ways of examining the lived religious experience in the classroom, looking at artefactual, religious and critical literacies? • What is critical literacy, why is it necessary, and how could we teach it? • How can children’s literature enhance the teaching of both critical literacies and the lived religious experience in religious education lessons – and beyond?
<p>Main content and activities of session:</p> <p>The session will introduce the main issue around teaching critical, artefactual and religious literacies in the classroom, with a focus on what it means to be <i>literate</i> in these areas rather than just informed. The main bulk of the session will take the form of an upper KS2/lower KS3 lesson (!) using a range of books to encourage discussion and exploration of key religious concepts across two or more religious practices. Focussing on two books in particular – Gleitzman’s <i>Grace</i>, and <i>Does My Head Look Big In This?</i> by Abdel-Fattah, the session will attempt to investigate not only how we can use great fiction to help pupils understand the religious experience a bit more easily, but also what it might feel like to be a pupil newly exposed to raw and passionate fictional accounts of religious adherence and the questions that exposure might raise in terms of classroom use.</p> <p>The session will end with an overview of key principles to take into account when using critical and artefactual literacy approaches in the RE classroom and a chance to look at a range of possible fiction choices for future use.</p>
<p>Links to resources, publications, etc :</p> <p>Abdel-Fattah, R, <i>Does My Head Look Big in This</i>, 2005 Almond, D, <i>The Tale of Angelino Brown</i>, 2017 Almond, D, <i>The True Tale of the Monster Billy Dean</i>, 2011 Almond, D, <i>Slog’s Dad</i>, 2006 Cottrell Boyce, F, <i>Millions</i>, 2004 Farmer, N, <i>The House of the Scorpion</i>, 2002 Forde, C, <i>Fat Boy Swim</i>, 2003 Gilbert Murdock, C, <i>The Book of Boy</i>, 2018 Gleitzman, M, <i>Grace</i>, 2009 Main, Z, <i>The Muslims</i>, 2017 McCaughrean, G, <i>Forever X</i>, 1997 Mehmood, T, <i>You’re Not Proper</i>, 2015 Millar, M and Gross, P, <i>American Jesus</i>, 2016 Pullman, P, <i>Northern Lights</i>, 1995 Pullman, P, <i>The Book of Dust</i>, 2017 Rosoff, M, <i>There is no Dog</i>, 2011 Rowling, J K, <i>The Tales of Beedle the Bard</i>, 2007 Zurcher, A, <i>Twelve Nights</i>, 2018 Coles, R, <i>The Spiritual Life of Children</i>, 1992 Green, C.R and Brenneman Olendorf, S. <i>Religious Diversity and Children’s Literature</i>, 2011 Pahl, K & Rowsell, J, <i>Artifactual Literacies: Every Object Tells A Story</i>, 2010 Priestly, J.G, <i>Concepts with Blurry Edges: Story and the Religious imagination</i> 1983</p>