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Alison
Wilcox



WHY IS DESCRIPTIVE WRITING IMPORTANT?

The importance of children being able to express their ideas using good descriptive language is widely accepted, not just for creative writing, but also for non-fiction.

Developing descriptive language to communicate effectively is an essential tool across the curriculum. History is concerned not merely with dates and facts, but with describing and interpreting past events. In Geography, children need to be able to describe the world around them. In Science, they need to observe carefully and then be capable of describing what is happening in an experiment. In all areas of the curriculum, children need the vocabulary to enable them to describe and interpret.

To be able to describe effectively, we first need to be taught how to look and listen. We need to learn the vocabulary to use in order to express our ideas. As well as encouraging children to use interesting language, a *Descriptosaurus* aims to improve children's observation skills, both in their own environment and their reading.

We describe sights and events differently because we see and interpret things differently. To any situation or piece of writing we bring our own personality, experiences and imaginations. As educators, both parents and teachers, we need to open children's eyes to the world around them, stimulate their imaginations and sow the seeds of effects that can be achieved in their writing. With the vocabulary, knowledge and understanding of how to use language to achieve depth and colour in their writing children will grow in confidence and motivation to experiment, find their 'voice' and develop their own style of writing.