

Dear Diary - Writing Task (Lesson plan)

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Learning outcomes:

1. For children to be able use descriptive and emotive words
2. Developing an emotional and imaginative life through writing
3. To be able to narrate the feelings of others and their point of views - (nurture empathy)



I have created this activity in hope that it allows our children a space to express themselves using emotive language and an empathetic mindset. I feel that as important as it is for us to speak to our children about the history of Palestine, it is just as important that we discuss the current affairs.

Reading stories and exploring the life of others who are not living under the privileges that we are, can really help nurture empathy in our children.

Show your children these images of the children of Palestine (or browse through the internet with your children):



Points to discuss/brainstorm: How do you feeling seeing these images? How do you think the children in the images are feeling? Why might they be feeling like this? How might they be feeling about the people who have put them in this situation?

This activity will allow our children to explore their thoughts through their writing. Allow this writing space to be their own, imagining that they are a child in Palestine.

Try to explore the usage of emotive language featuring:

- Rhetorical questions
- Exclamations
- Repetition
- Facts

Extension activities:

To write a letter to a Palestinian child. They could use their diary segment to help them. What could they say to give them hope?

Your child could use this piece of writing to write a letter to their local MP or prime minister. Explore further emotive language such as, factual, and instructional.

Dear Diary - Writing Task

If you were to read a diary of a Palestinian child, what do you think it would say? How would they describe their day? How would they be feeling throughout the day?

Now imagine that you are in Palestine, living through their trials. What would you write in your diary?

Try to include the following:

- Feelings, thoughts, and emotions (emotive language)
- Use powerful vocabulary and verbs
- Write in first person

Dear Diary...