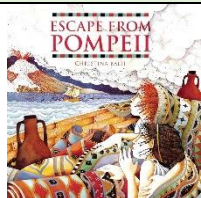




St John Fisher RC Primary School

Year Five Knowledge Organiser – Autumn Term Two – English Reading and Writing



Quality Text: Escape from Pompeii by Christina Balit

Christina Balit is a British author, illustrator, and playwright, known primarily for her work in children's literature, particularly those dealing with mythology, history, and the natural world.

Plot:

Escape from Pompeii follows two friends, Tranio and Livia, who must flee their homes in Pompeii as Mount Vesuvius erupts in 79 A.D. They rush to the harbor, hide on a boat, and witness the catastrophic destruction of their city as the volcano spews ash and smoke, ultimately escaping on the vessel. The story is based on the real historical event of the eruption and highlights themes of courage, fear, and natural disaster.

Final Outcome – Narrative First Person Retelling with innovation

Reason – to produce a story to read to class

Audience – classmates/children

Features – story sequence, setting, characters, conflict, point of view, figurative language

Tone – to entertain

Story Path: Plot Points	1. Introduction to the main character and setting. 2. Something unexpected happens and the character faces a problem. 3. The atmosphere changes. 4. The characters take action. 5. The characters witness an eruption and reflect on their ordeal.				
Themes	ordinary life historical culture	decisions escapism	danger fear	urgency panic	despair destruction
Vocabulary	harbour tremors forum	creaked quivered bolted	darken choppy ash	frantically desperately choke	horrified exploded destroyed
Features	Imagery – the riverbank	Character Motivations	Imagery Paragraphs	Cohesion across paragraphs Action/Reaction	Action Reaction
Grammar	Expanded noun phrases	Speech/dialogue	Expanded noun phrases	Relative clauses Adverbials of time and place Verbs/Adverbs	Verbs/adverbs Cohesive devices within paragraphs