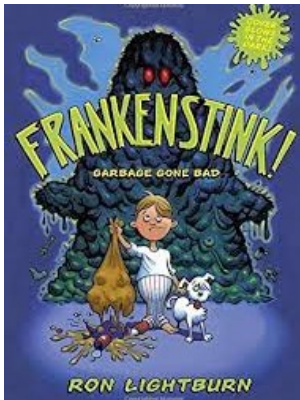


Writing Trait: Ideas and Word Choice

Learning Intention: adding details through descriptive language
carol.walters@sd71.bc.ca



By Ron Lightburn

Before Reading:

Invite students to think about their messy areas. Have them visualize their bedroom, their desk, a family play area etc.

Share some examples of their messy side of life through a partner turn and talk. Several children may want to share their descriptions with the whole class after talking to a partner.

During Reading:

Explain to students that their main purpose of listening to this story is for enjoyment. Beyond that, have them keep an ear open for some nice examples of word choice.

After Reading and Writing Extensions:

Comprehend and Connect

⇒ Respond to text in personal and creative ways

⇒ Use personal experience and knowledge to connect to text and develop understanding of self, community, and world

Borrowing words from a chart, will help your students add rich language to their writing. Create a chart with lots of messy words and phrases by following these steps:

Using a page or two of text from Frankenstink, gather some lovely words and phrases and model how they may be added to a word bank chart about messy places.

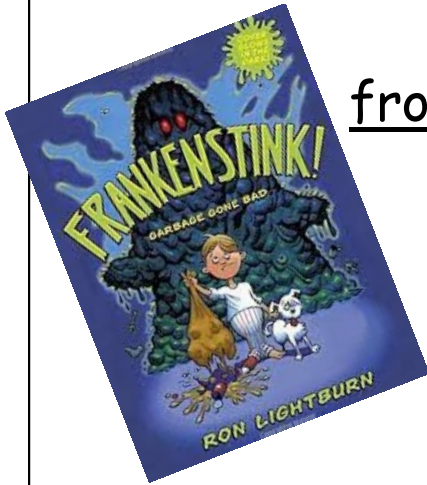
Provide copies of more of the text from this book. Have students gather words in a similar matter. Once finished, students can share their words and add to the chart that was started while modelling this word-gathering. Encourage students to think of other words and phrases not used by author Ron Lightburn.

With a fabulous chart filled with words and phrases, children are armed to do a quick piece of writing about a very messy place. Faye Brownlie encourages a quick write that is set up almost like a race ... pencils in the air ... Ready ... Set ...Go!

To encourage your students to use as many words from the chart as possible, you may want to try Adrienne Gear's Spend a Penny strategy. In which each word used is worth a penny. Challenge students to produce an expensive piece of writing!

Messy Words

from Frankenstink! Garbage Gone Bad



Although it's tempting to simply photocopy the chart on the next page, engagement and ownership will be *so much* greater when students gather these words themselves. That's the power of co-creating ideas together!

