



# Year 4

## English Learning Letter

### Week beginning 4th May 2020



This week we will be reading the book Zoo, by Anthony Browne. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T07u0AggVsg>

In this book a family travel to the Zoo and are unimpressed with all the animals. However the book works on two levels as while the family tell the story, their attitude along with images tell a different one. Using this as a basis we will go on to write a balanced discussion piece considering the pros and cons of Zoos (nb the easiest way for children to follow the story is a You Tube link. Please monitor their usage).

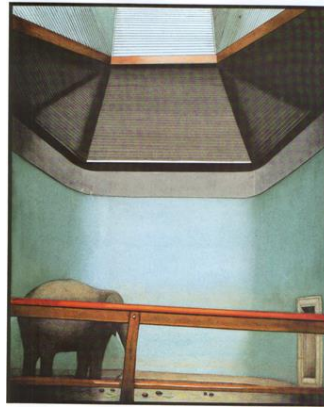
#### Lesson 1

##### Learning question:

Can I write from a character's perspective?

##### Success criteria:

- I can infer feelings
- I can use noun phrases
- I can use adverbials of place



##### Model and explanation:

Write a short paragraph explaining one of the animal's feelings based on an image. The images in the book are often from the perspective of the animals.

You will use fronted adverbials of place such as (in front of me) and nouns phrases (cold, hard iron bars) which help describe the unpleasant conditions.

e.g. **In front of me** are cold, hard iron bars which hold back the groups of humans who have come to stare.

##### Task and Outcome

Watch the Educreations video.

There will then be some questions on the text to help with understanding,

Following this you will plan language and then write your description.

<p><b><u>Lesson 2</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Learning question:</u></b> Can I express an opinion?</p> <p><b><u>Success criteria:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I can use conjunctions to explain a point</li> <li>• I can write multi-clause sentences (with a comma if necessary)</li> <li>• I can use emotive language</li> <li>• EXT: I can use rhetorical questions</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Model and explanation:</u></b></p> <p>Using the powerful imagery from the book, we will discuss the conditions in some zoos. From that you will express opinions using conjunctions (because, due to, as, since) to explain your point of view.</p> <p>I believe animals should not be forced to live in unnatural environments shown as this is putting profit before their welfare.</p> <p>Due to the effect on their health, I believe zoos keeping animals in unpleasant conditions must improve or be closed down.</p>	<p><b><u>Task and Outcome</u></b></p> <p>Watch video, looking at conditions and discussing how they could be improved.</p> <p>We will then build points with clear explanations.</p>
<p><b><u>Lesson 3</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Learning question:</u></b> Can I write a balanced discussion? part 1</p> <p><b><u>Success criteria:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I can use topic sentences to start paragraphs</li> <li>• I can use conjunctions to explain and link points</li> <li>• I can use emotive language</li> <li>• I can write in third person</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Model and explanation:</u></b></p> <p>We will look more generally at zoos and the arguments for and against them. This will include a discussion on whether it is right to keep animals in captive. We will also look at some of the good work zoos do (although this will be explored in greater detail tomorrow).</p> <p>Today we will write a short introduction (using the learning from this week) and then a paragraph looking at the negatives of zoos.</p> <p>e.g.</p> <p>Many would argue that zoos should be illegal because it is unfair and cruel to remove animals from their environments.</p>	<p><b><u>Task and Outcome</u></b></p> <p>Watch the Educreations video and we will discuss the points made and the model and language used.</p> <p>Using the model as a base for the tone, you will then write an introduction and then a paragraph or two exploring one side of the argument.</p>

## Lesson 4

### Learning question:

Can I write a balanced discussion? part 1

### Success criteria:

- I can use topic sentences to start paragraphs
- I can use conjunctions to make balanced points
- I can use emotive language
- I can write a conclusion (including your own opinion if you wish)

### Model and explanation

Following on from yesterday we look at some of the conservations zoos do with rare animals for example.

Using similar language to yesterday you will then write a paragraph exploring the other side of the argument. This will involve oppositional / balancing conjunctions (such as although, while, despite)

Although many would argue they are cruel, it could be argued that some zoos have improved conditions hugely over the years.

Despite some of the negative aspects of zoos, certain centres, such as London zoo, have helped in important conservation work for rare animals.

Children will then be invited to form an opinion, which may still be balanced, and then write this in their conclusion.

Watch the Educreations video and we will discuss the points made and the model and language used as yesterday.

Watch video on conclusions and then write a conclusion with your own opinion (if you wish).