

W2 Thursday 3: Lockdown Poetry - Things I have been doing lately.

24 February 2021 13:46

I read this poem and immediately thought of how we could all write something about what we have been doing lately....

Things I Have Been Doing Lately

Things I have been doing lately:

Pretending to go mad
Eating my own cheeks from the inside
Growing taller
Keeping a secret
Keeping a worm in a jar
Keeping a good dream going
Picking a scab on my elbow
Rolling the cat up in a rug
Blowing bubbles in my spit
Making myself dizzy
Holding my breath
Pressing my eyeballs so that I become temporarily blind
Being very nearly ten
Practising my signature . . .

Saving the best till last.

Allan Ahlberg

p269, The Works

YOUR TASK:

Today you're going to think about making your own version of this poem...

It could be silly and fun. If you are lacking lockdown creativity then go crazy with your imagination! Battled a ferocious dragon, discovered long-lost treasure, invented a contraption for travelling through time...

Or you could see it as an opportunity to record how you feel about what you have been doing lately.... Which could be happy or not so happy... or a bit of it all.

Mrs Smith's 'Things I Have Been Doing Lately'

Things I have been doing lately:

Staring at a screen which is no substitute for my class
Missing seeing everyone and anyone
Making work and marking work
Wondering how everyone and anyone I know is coping
Ignoring the phrase 'we used to...' or 'it would be nice to'
Reading, reading and reading some more
Just appreciating my boys
Teaching one to ride a bike
Watching one need the next size up
Playing vrooming through the sky
Crazy zooming parties
Learning something new everyday
Like that I can build Thunderbird 2 from cardboard on request
Tickling until my hands hurt just to lose myself in giggles
Enjoying long awaited sunshine and crisp, blue sky
Breathing long and deep
Living without stopping
Avoiding news about 'it'
Contemplating exercise but never quite doing it
Gazing at the bird murmurations each night
Washing the consequential bird-poo off the cars
Avoiding the next lock-down birthday milestone
Pottering is what I mostly do best
Then wondering. Wondering if and when....
What will I do?

I have ordered this....

- Work/teaching
- Wondering about the impact of coronavirus
- Things I have done with my children
- Enjoying this weekend - sun and blue sky!
- Thinking about my birthday in lock-down
- Wondering about the future and what I will do when I am allowed?



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How did I make mine?

Step 1:

Choose powerful verbs and precise nouns

I literally made a list of:

Verbs - easy - your doing words....

Staring, reading, learning, enjoying, breathing etc....

Nouns - your objects/things/people

Screen, boys, bike, sky, parties.....

When you have finished, hand write it up, maybe add a picture.

Step 2:

Put them together

Step 3:

Review the order, do they flow or follow on from each other....

Extension: Things I will do in the future....

