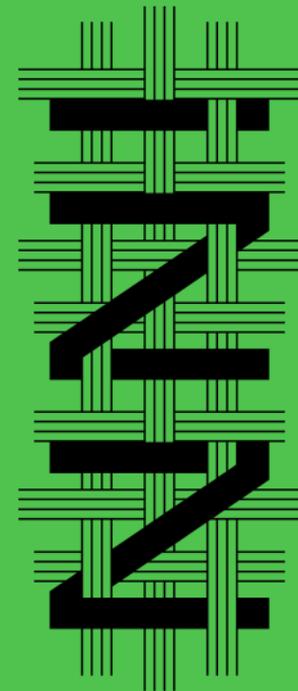February assignment for Hadeland teachers

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Cross-curricular work using authentic texts

✓Explore the two poetry databases listed on slide 5.

✓Choose a poem that you could use to teach <u>one</u> of the two cross-curricular topics: democracy and citizenship, health and life-skills.

✓If you are teaching very young learners and cannot find an appropriate poem for their level, choose a nursery rhyme. Youtube can be a useful source, along with the posted booklet. Keep in mind that the nursery rhyme must also reflect one of the cross-curricular topics.

(N.B. Use 30 minutes up to this point)

✓Read the article *Readers Theatre: a different approach to English for struggling readers.* Ion Drew and Roar Pedersen (2010). (Use 30 minutes)

✓Design a Readers Theatre activity for your pupils. (Use 60 minutes)

Readers Theatre, for Years 1-10

Readers Theatre activity, Years 1-10

1. Decide the context of your activity: intended age group, reading level and/or mixed levels, etc.

2. Using your chosen poem/nursery rhyme and the information in the article, design a Readers Theatre activity.

3. Things to consider:
   - The context should inform your text selection and how you adapt the activity
   - The type of Readers Theatre (traditional / developed) as described in the article.
   - Assigned roles
   - Gestures and/or props
   - Practice makes perfect!

4. Have a look at an example of a reading of *The True Story of The Three Little Pigs*:

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs | English (Fairy Tale and Bedtime) Stories for Children – YouTube

Theatre Arts I - Reader's Theatre: The True Story of the Three Little Pigs (2011) – YouTube

5. Use your idea in class. You have 10 weeks before we meet again.

Poetry databases

- Poetry Foundation: www.poetryfoundation.org
- More than 40,000 poems by contemporary and classical poets
- Biographies of contemporary and classical poets
- Click on «poems», for children/teens etc.

- Children's Poetry Archive: https://childrens.poetryarchive.org
- Scroll down to find different themes and age groups.
- Poems are read aloud by the author and the text is underneath.

Enjoy!