

WINDOWS ON YOUR WORLD

4. ALL KINDS OF WINDOWS

POSSIBLE PROMPTS



Injecting intermittent prompt questions at periodic intervals expands participant's thinking. If participants are slow to start resist any urge to put words in their mouths.

Leave a reasonable time between each prompt question.

Suggested sequences of prompt questions for each activity include:

1 ALL KINDS OF DIFFERENT WINDOWS

To help participants describe and identify the different kinds of old windows in the two Playhouse buildings and others en route to St Augustine's - the 'wee church on the walls' pose the following prompts periodically:

How many shapes do you see in the windows of the two Playhouse buildings (or in the old buildings on the historic street you've chosen)?

Semi-circles, rectangles, circles

What do you call windows with a semi-circle shape at the top?

A round arched window

What name can you use to describe windows with arches this shape?

Classical

Do you remember who invented the arch?

The Romans

Some children might say triangles too - these sometimes occur above the windows and called pediments - they're definitely a triangle but not a window as such.

How do the different windows open?

Some of the windows high up at The Playhouse have a sash that slides up from the bottom - the children will remember this opening technique from the old window they discussed during Workshop 2 - 'Through the Looking Glass'.

Have a look at some of the other building's windows

How do these open?

What allows these windows to open?

Do you see anything shiny on the frame?.....any little narrow shiny lines?

What are these bits of metal for?

They hold the sash into the frame.

Do you know what they're called?

Have you ever heard of hinges?

How do these windows open?

Do you pull them in or push them out?

Do you have any windows like that in your house?

Think of opening the top of a suitcase.

Remember that word 'case'

The windows in the bottom of the Playhouse open like the lid of a suitcase.

This sort of window is called a 'casement' window.

Continue along the city walls until you get to No 8 Artillery Street beside 'The Playhouse'

Do you see any windows you recognise from before?

Where did we see one of these?

What do we call this window?

Twelve pane sliding sash window

Carry on walking and ask the children to see if they can spot any other sliding sash windows. Ask them to count how many panes they have.

2 pane, quarter pane, 6 pane, 9 pane etc

Move on to St Columb's Cathedral

Has anyone ever seen windows like this before?

What sort of shape are they?

What do you call the thing that flies to the moon?

Would you say some of these windows are like a rocket?

Can you make a shape like this with your arms in the air?

What are your fingers doing?

Are they pointing at anything?

What are your fingertips pointing at?

What would be a good name for the shape of these windows?

A.....pointy.....arch!

Can anyone guess why the builders made windows this shape?

They made them as tall and skinny as they could to make them look like they were reaching for the sky - to make your eyes look up to heaven.

The word we use to describe a building with windows this shape is 'Gothic'.

From where we're standing - without turning round - can anyone see any other 12 pane sliding sash windows?

Look as far away as you can.

Does anyone know what the building with the twelve pane sliding sash windows is used for?

It's a house!

Do you know who lives there?

That's where the Dean of St Columb's Cathedral lives with his wife and children.

Does anyone know his name?

Dean Morton

2 YOUR FAVOURITE GOTHIC WINDOW

Once everyone's inside St Augustine's Church (or a Gothic church near you) ask the participants to count all the windows.

Get them to look in all the nooks and crannies – high up as well as low down.

See how many come up with the right answer.

Can you spot a window you've never seen before?

Does anyone know what this window is called?

Does it remind you of anything?

Hopefully someone will say a 'flower'

What sort of flower do you think it is?

If they are stuck remind them of the red flower they smelt on the way in?

What sort of flower was that?

A rose

It's a 'rose' window!

DESCRIBE YOUR FAVOURITE WINDOW IN THIS BUILDING.

Gather the children round a stained glass window – preferably one they can see up close.

Look up close – do you see anything as well as coloured glass?

How do you think someone would get that picture on the coloured glass?

What do you use when you are doing a painting?

What material does the artist paint on the coloured glass with their brushes? **A glaze**

How do they get the glaze to stay on the glass when it rains outside?

If you stood the window up with wet glaze on it what would happen?

How would you stop it running off?

Can you think of good ways to stop it running off?

A hairdryer might be one way to dry it out? Is that right?

What does your Mammy use to cook a chicken for your dinner?

Yes, the stained glass artist uses a big oven to bake the glaze onto the glass surface.

4 SHARING LEARNING

Good questions include:

What do you see in the drawing?

Do you know who's in the picture?

Do you see anything else in the picture?

What colours do you see?

Which parts of the picture are made just from coloured glass?

Do you see any parts of the window picture painted on with a brush?

What kind of windows do you see in this church/building?

Do you remember the names for them?

Can you remember the word for buildings with windows this shape?

If it's built before c.1890 and the windows have pointed arches it's a 'Gothic' building.

If the building has round arched windows and/or twelve pane sliding sash windows you can say the style of the building is 'Classical'.



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