Sparking Curiosity with Primary Geography

Jane Whittle

On behalf of the Primary Geography Editorial Board

Geographical Association Conference 2017.
How long have you subscribed to Primary Geography?

- 7-8 years: 100%
- 0 years: 0%
- 1-2 years: 0%
- 3-4 years: 0%
- 5-6 years: 0%
- 9-10 years: 0%
‘Creativity, when it is broadly conceived, has natural synergies with geography. Geography is a subject that is driven by curiosity about the world as it is now and how it might become.’ (Tanner, 2017; p. 147)


“It's no secret that curiosity makes learning more effective and enjoyable. Curious students not only ask questions, but also actively seek out the answers.” [https://www.edutopia.org/blog/why-curiosity-enhances-learning-marianne-stenger]

So how do we define curiosity..what is our thinking today? Let’s show it through an Emotional Symphony.
Session Aims

• How does Primary Geography encourage the Emotional Symphony you just created?

• How can we foster interest, what are the different ways in through PG?

• How can using PG articles develop children’s perception of Geography?
Before we even delve into the journals, there is a lot of potential to use the PG covers. They give an insight into the nature of Geography and encourage wonderings, questions and umms!

So let’s try this now.....

Turn and Talk: What wonderings, questions or geographical words spring to mind when you look at this PG cover? Select your most curious one to add to the Slido.
Focus on Change
How do Pupils with SEN Connect with the World? Caroline Martingell
Focus on Connections. Number 91 Autumn 2016

Investigating through Sounds. Task: Listen to the sound, can you identify what sound it is? Where might you hear it? How do you know? What prior geographical knowledge did you have? Would everyone be able to hear that sound?

Extension Ideas:

Are there some sounds only certain living things can hear?

What sounds do we hear in our locality - can we map them?

Can we make a sound map of the school - are there some places which are just too noisy?

Can we make a list of sounds in the world which make us feel different emotions and create a poem to share our ideas?

What sounds would the person in the picture be making? What sounds would be in the background...what makes you think that?
Being able to wander and wonder encourages children to use their curiosity, especially when they are seeing something through new perspectives.

Task: Each table has the same image. However you are going to wander around the image from different points of view.

- What do you see?
- How can you describe this?
- How do you feel in this space from the point of view of your character?

Task 2: Construct a living graph to document your thinking.
Penguins live on one side of the world. So are penguins upside down to people on the other side of the world? Can they fall off the world?

How many hands are turning on clocks at the same time?

What are clouds made of?

How does water make energy?

How does the Moon stay up?

How does the sky work?
Chair of the Editorial Collective, Steve Rawlinson

Contact details: stevergeography@gmail.com

Please contact Steve with article ideas.

To understand more about the process of submitting articles please visit: http://geography.org.uk/getinvolved/writingforthega/

**Future Journals…**

*Focus on Weather & Climate*

*Focus on Playful Geographies*