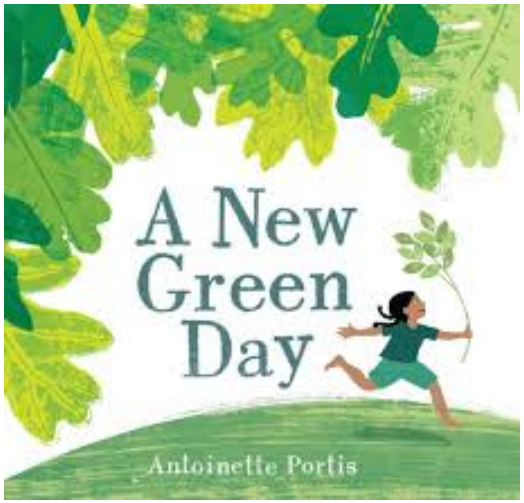
A New Green Day by Antoinette Portis

Explore nature through evocative riddles and bold imagery that take the reader from day to night and back again.

- Each page turn poses a riddle, which children will love answering and remembering on each re-read
- Bold and striking artwork with beautiful design make this attractive to pick up and handle
- Poetic language to describe everyday objects encourages a fresh examination of our surroundings
- Perfect to read aloud



English: **Year 2**	**National Curriculum Objectives:** * writing poetry * consider what they are going to write before beginning by: - planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about - writing down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary - encapsulating what they want to say, sentence by sentence	**Resources:** 'A New Green Day' By Antoinette Portis Images from the book

Ask the children if they know what a riddle is? Gather their ideas and then explain that a riddle is a type of poem that works like a puzzle. It usually describes something and sometimes uses words with a double meaning.

Show the children a selection of riddles with some words missing – can they find the missing rhyming words to solve the riddles?

This is a word which rhymes with cat,
It goes on your head because it's a _____ (hat).

I'm useful for journeys when you're going far,
I need lots of petrol because I'm a _____ (car).

You'll find us near ponds or sitting on logs,
We jump and we croak because we are _____ (frogs).

This is a word which rhymes with up.
You can drink out of me because I am a _____ (cup).

Show the children the front over of 'A New Green Day' and as you are reading pause and ask the children if they can guess which animal/object etc from nature could match each riddle…

'I scribble on the path
In glistening ink.
Read all about my
Nighttime travels.'
(Can the children guess snail?)

You could have images from the book available for the children to choose from if they need a little bit of additional support.

Tell the children that the author wants to add a few more riddles to her book. What other animals/objects from nature could be included? Children discuss in small groups before coming back together and gathering their ideas.

Small group activity	**Independent writing activity**
Children to choose their new natural object or animal and gather descriptive language to describe it	Children use their descriptive language to begin drafting their own riddles which could become additions to Portis' book

Children share their riddles for each other to guess.
Consider revising and editing opportunities and how they could be built into future lessons:

- Evaluating their writing with the teacher and other pupils
- Re-reading to check that their writing makes sense and that verbs to indicate time are used correctly and consistently, including verbs in the continuous form
- Proof-read to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation

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