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Stimuli for Philosophical Enquiry

Compiled by Lisa Naylor (Lead Teacher in P4C) – info@innovatecreateeducate.co.uk
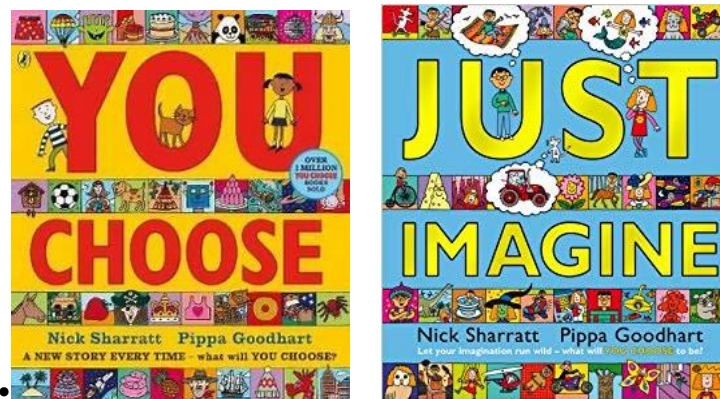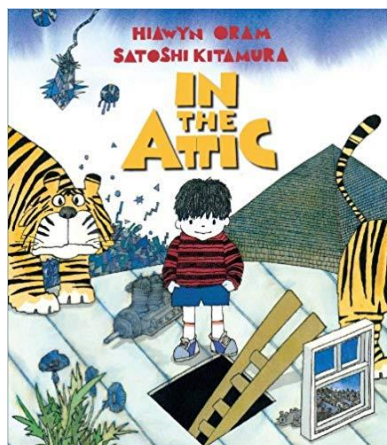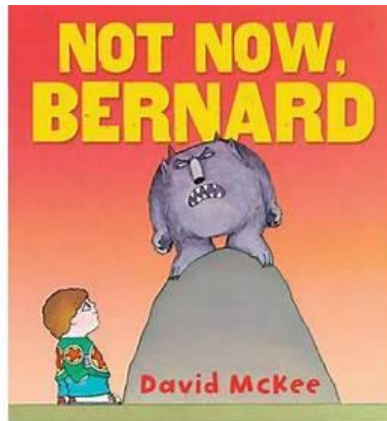
Picture Books – Younger children

You Choose and *Just Imagine* Pippa Goodhart & Nick Sharratt. Corgi Books.

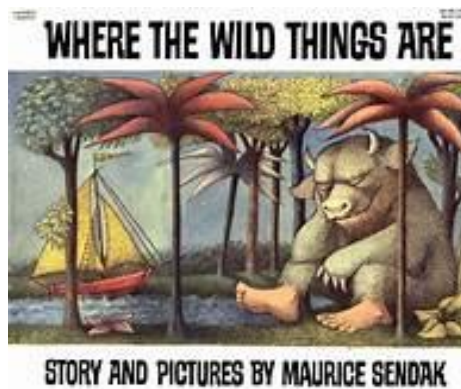Series of fun choices: where would you choose to live, who would you choose to be your family, etc…

In the Attic Hiawyn Oram / Satoshi Kitamora. Anderson Press.

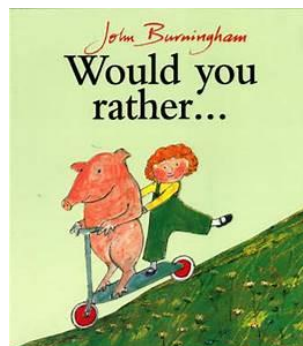Being bored, creating 'places to play', belief, imagination.

Not Now Bernard by David McKee. Red Fox

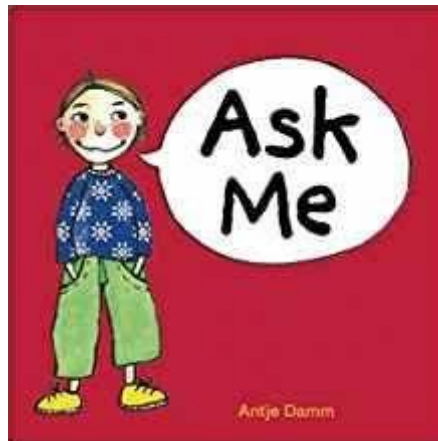Relationship with parents, imagination, reality

Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak. Picture Puffin.

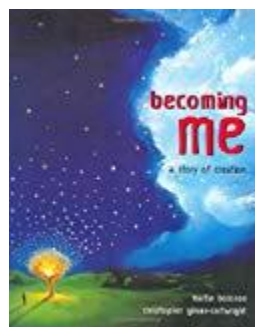Child rage, imagination, questions reality.

Would you Rather…. John Burningham.

Funny, scary and sometimes horrid choices!

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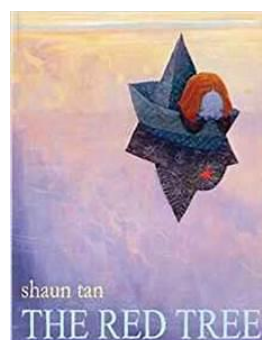

Ask Me by Antje Damm. A collection of interesting questions and illustrations

Picture books – Older children (suitable at KS2 or for able KS1 children)

Becoming Me: A Story of Creation by Martin Boroson . Frances Lincoln.

Creation, existence, spirituality, religion, tradition, time.

The Red Tree by Shaun Tan, Hodder Books

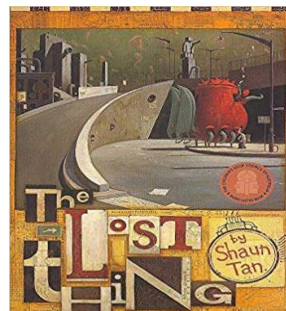Imagination, journeys, hope, isolation

The Arrival by Shaun Tan. Lothian Books (wordless picture book)

Journeys, refugees, loss. Family, difference isolation
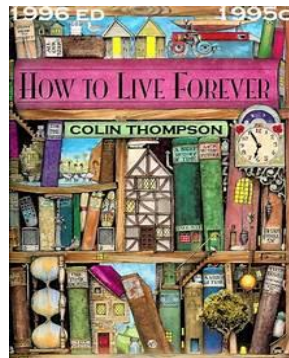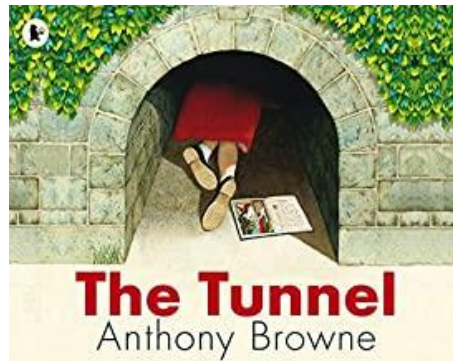

How to Live forever by Colin Thompson

Immortality, curiosity, knowledge, death, time

The Lost Thing by Shaun Tan. Lothian Children's Books

 Belonging, fitting in, being lost, having a place in the world, friendship, responsibility

The Tunnel by Anthony Browne. Walker Books

Fear, brother / sister relationships, caring, growing up.
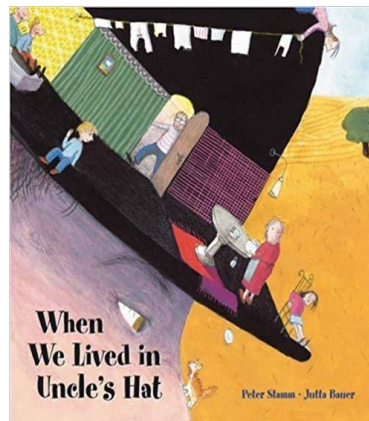
When we Lived in Uncle's Hat by Peter Stamm. Winged Chariot Press.

The family move from one strange location to another. Family, home, reality, imagination, dreams, belonging, moving
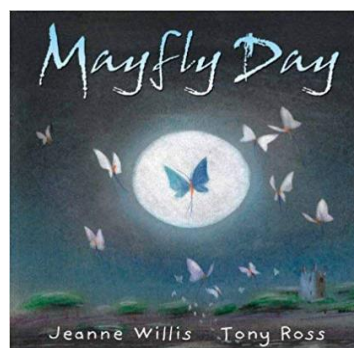
Mayfly Day by Jeanne Willis/Tony Ross, Andersen Press.

Mayfly has only one day to live but she enjoys every moment: mortality, making the most of life, nature, enjoyment

Zoo by Anthony Browne. Red Fox.

Being trapped, captivity, freedom, relationships between adults and children, family, animals rights

Collections of stimuli especially chosen for use in philosophical enquiry

For Younger Children:

First Poems for Thinking. Robert Fisher. Nash Pollock Publishing.

First Stories for Thinking. Robert Fisher. Nash Pollock Publishing.
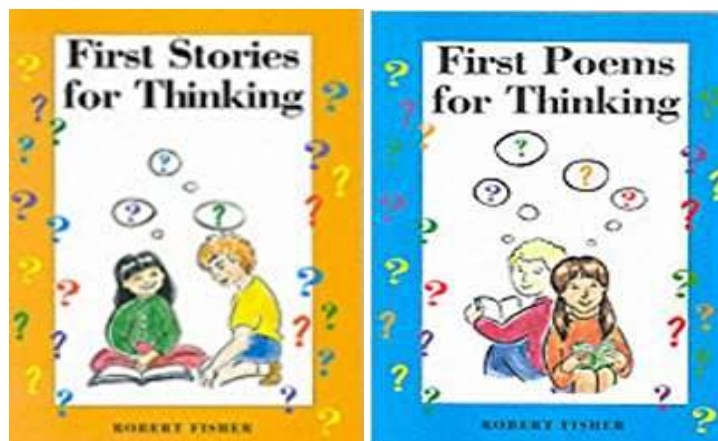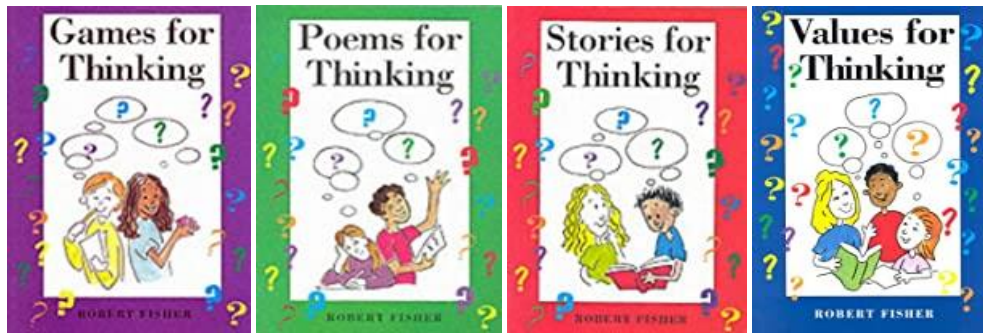
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Key stage 2 & older

Games for Thinking. Robert Fisher. Nash Pollock Publishing.

Poems for Thinking. Robert Fisher. Nash Pollock Publishing.

Stories for Thinking. Robert Fisher. Nash Pollock Publishing.

Values for Thinking. Robert Fisher. Nash Pollock Publishing.

Teacher's resources:

Thinking Allowed: Philosophy for Children at Gallions Primary School: a step-by-step DVD guide to using P4C.Gallions Primary School, orders@gallions.newham.sch.uk
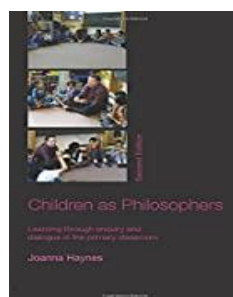
Children as Philosophers by Dr Joanna Haynes. Routledge Falmer

An excellent book to supplement and enrich Thinking Together. This is usually one of the SAPERE level 2 course recommended readings.

SAPERE level 1 Handbook Introduction to philosophical enquiry with resources and special interest sections which accompanies the level 1 training course.

But Why? **Why Think?** Developing philosophical thinking in the classroom. Sara Stanley. Network Educational Press. Introduction to P4C using the character of philosophy bear
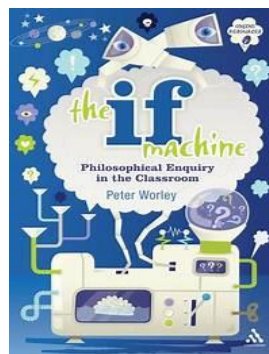
The If Machine by Peter Worley

Each scenario offers an imaginary situation, followed by a series of questions to encourage children to challenge key philosophical ideas such as values and ethics, gender and identity, and existence and beauty.
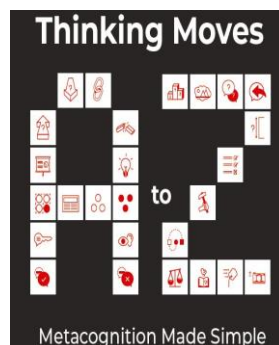
Thinking Moves A – Z - a structured approach to thinking about thinking – a framework for metacognition

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Useful websites:

www.sapere.org.uk - the recognised website for teachers and educators using P4C in Britain for information, resources, conferences and training.

www.P4C.com – an online resource and collaborative service for P4C with useful materials for ideas and support

www.dialogueworks.co.uk – useful resource section and blogs

www.wordia.co.uk - a visual dictionary of words with various people taking about what certain words mean to them such as life, fate, belief, destiny, etc…

Video Clips:

For the Birds – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nYTrIcn4rjg

Dangle - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_uG3VHR8aVI&t=14s

The Present - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96kI8Mp1uOU

Dove Evolution - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYhCn0jf46U

Love Has No Labels - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PnDgZuGIhHs

Glosoli - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bz8iEJeh26E

Objects

- A blank piece of paper

- A globe

- A locked suitcase

- A lottery ticket

- A mirror

- A one day travelcard

- A pair of glasses

- A piece of a jigsaw puzzle

Version 1.1

- A Russian Doll

- A handful of money

Artwork

- Andy Goldsworthy- Various

- Claes Oldenburg – various – e.g. The Trowel

- Golconde – Rene Magritte

- Maurits Cornelius Escher – e.g. Relativity

- Photographs – the earth from above

- The Persistence of memory – Salividor Dali

Quotes

- "Cogito ergo sum" - I think therefore I am – Rene Descartes

- "Poetry is more philosophical and more serious than history." Aristotle

- "The face is the soul of the body." Ludwig Wittgenstein

- "The unexamined life is not worth living." Socrates

- "There is only one religion, though there are a hundred versions of it' George Bernard Shaw

Music

- Antonio Vivaldi – The Four Seasons

- Camille Saint-Saëns. - Carnival of the Animals

- Gustav Holst's Planets Suite

- John Cage - 4'33" ("four minutes, thirty-three seconds").

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Miscellaneous / Abstract

- Nothing

- One of the children