

“Words *for* Life”

This term we would like to focus on engaging our learners back into reading and we need **your** help!

National Literacy Trust research tells us that even at age 16, parental interest in a child’s reading is the single greatest predictor of achievement. With that in mind, we would like you to become **reading role models** for the young people in your care.

But how?

- ✓ Simply asking your child about their reading habits is enough.
- ✓ Encourage your child/young person to take a book from our new reading area and read it with them.
- ✓ Another great way is by gaining the help of Stormzy and watching this clip with your child or young person at home.



<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/zone-in/activities/watch-merky-books-authors-talk-about-finding-their-voice/>


Hear why Stormzy thinks there's 'nothing more gangster than being well educated',

- Why it's important to take time to work out what you're good at.
- How to use your gifts, talents and passions (or 'super powers', as Eniola calls them!) to break down barriers and find your voice.
- Tips on how to deal with anxiety and self-doubt.
- How to maintain your sense of purpose and stay focused when being creative.
- Why changing how you see failure can create the best opportunities to grow.


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You can also help them expand their vocabulary and go through the keywords being explored in lessons to support your child/young person.

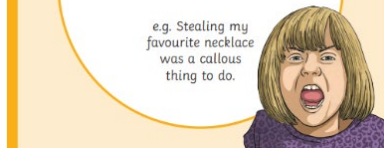
aghast
horrified
e.g. The crowd were aghast when they saw the sight in front of them.




amiable
friendly
e.g. Harry has many friends because he has an amiable personality.



callous
harsh or heartless
e.g. Stealing my favourite necklace was a callous thing to do.



courteous
polite
e.g. The courteous young lady helped the elderly lady with her shopping.



dreary
dull or bleak
e.g. The picnic was cancelled due to the dreary weather.

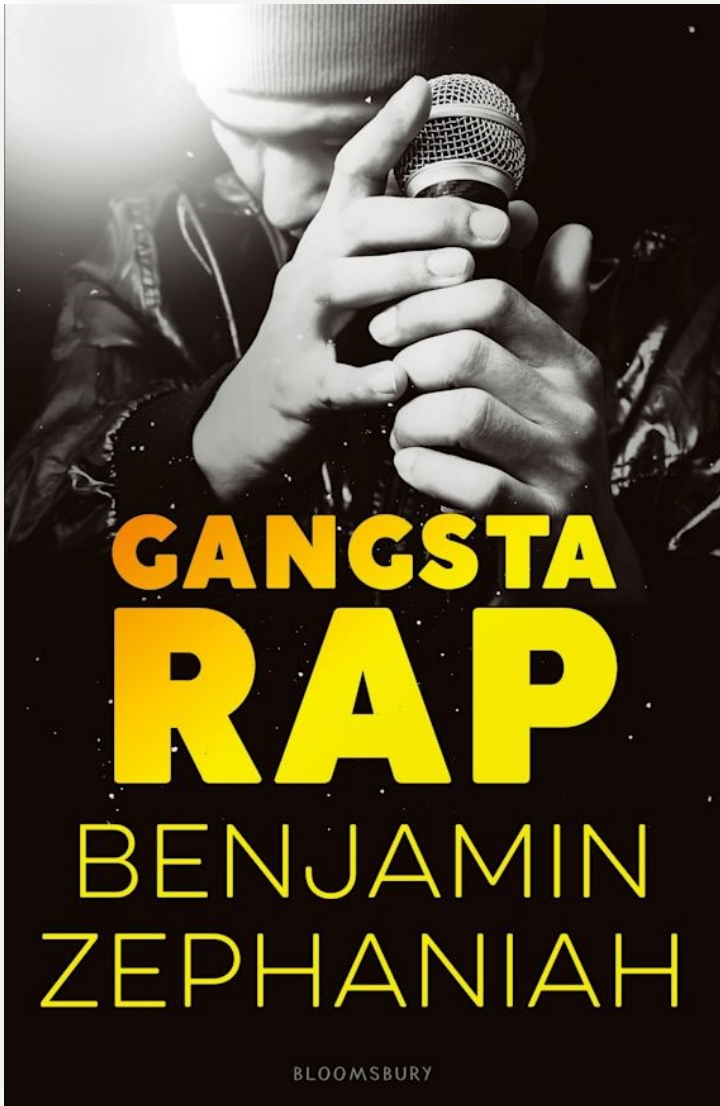


decrepit
old, ruined or worn out
e.g. The decrepit buildings were knocked down.



“**Words *for* Life**”

Recommended Read



Ray has given up school. He sees no point in education and despises authority. And then he has no choice about school as he is excluded. But Ray also has troubles at home, which means he has nowhere to stay and ends up sleeping in the local record shop, owned by his friend Marga Man. Ray and his friends attend a Social Exclusion Project which means they can develop their music skills. Marga Man gets a record deal for them, and they become local heroes. But another rap band takes a dislike to Ray’s music and gang warfare is the result... Based on Benjamin’s own troubled experience of school and the music business, his passionate, immediate voice will appeal to all his fans.

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Chapter 1

School, What School

Ray was woken up by the sound of his parents shouting at each other downstairs. He pulled the duvet over his head so that he could not hear them, but after five minutes his alarm clock rang anyway and he was forced to face the day. He dragged himself out of bed, went to the top of the stairs and shouted, ‘Give it a rest, will you.’ His parents heard him, but carried on.

Back in his room Ray searched through his massive collection of CDs until he found his favourite Tupac Shakur album, ‘Me Against the World’. Dressed only in his boxer shorts, he strutted around the room rapping along with Tupac, imagining that he was on stage and the CD player was his audience. Tupac was Ray’s hero. Ray knew every word of the track and rapping along with him made Ray feel as if Tupac were in the same room as him. When his music was on he could no longer hear his parents arguing, but before the first track was over he could hear the sound of his sister Kori singing along to the R’n’B singer Beyoncé in the other room. Ray turned his volume up. Kori turned her volume up. Ray turned his volume up even more.

‘What the hell do you two think you are doing?’ shouted their father from the landing. He was a short stocky man who had shaved his head the moment his hair had started to go grey, and had obviously spent a lot of time pumping iron in his youth. He stood in a position from where he could shout into both bedrooms.

‘This is no rave, this is not a discothèque business you know. What are you trying to do, shake the house down?’

Both CD players went silent.

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‘She started it,’ Ray said, opening his bedroom door wide to see his angry father standing there.

Kori stormed out of her room. ‘He started it with that hip-hop rubbish,’ she said as she locked herself in the bathroom.

‘What hip-hop rubbish?’ Ray shouted in the direction of the bathroom. ‘It’s better than that stuff you play, that stuff doesn’t say a thing, that stuff sounds like babies crying. And hurry up and get out of the bathroom, other people want to use it too.’

‘If the music I play sounds like babies crying, yours sounds like dogs barking,’ Kori shouted at the door.

‘Oh yeah,’ replied Ray. ‘You wait until I get my rap band together, we’ll teach you about good music. All that stuff that you listen to does is brainwash you.’

‘You and your so-called band. It will never happen Ray, and if it does you’ll be crap.’

Their father stamped his foot down hard. The house shook. ‘Both of you shut up, and you, Ray, you should know better. I told you to start being an example to your sister, didn’t I? And put some clothes on.’

‘You should know better,’ Ray said, turning his back on his father. ‘Every morning this week you and Mum wake me up with your arguing.’

Ray could see that his father wanted to lash out. He had hit Ray before but this time he managed to control himself.

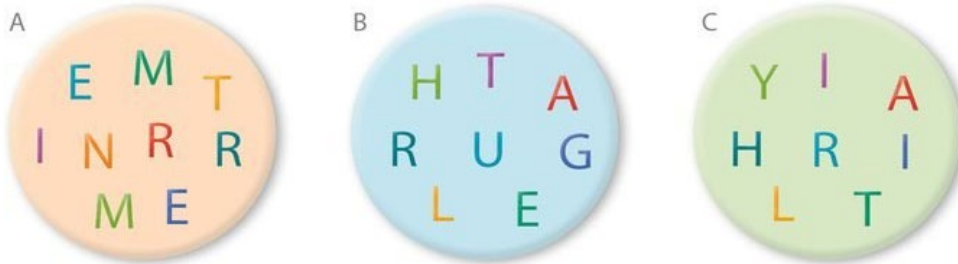
Why not borrow the book from our reading area and finish the story?

Ask Katie for more details

Words for Life

Puzzle page

Create three words, one from each circle, that all have a similar meaning.



Guess the words or phrases?	CCCCCCC	T O W N	LE / VEL	R O A D S R O A D S	KNEE LIGHTS
		GIVE GET GIVE GET GIVE GET GIVE GET	AID AID AID AID AID ←	BLOOD IIIIII	LOST LOST LOST LOST LOST M
	NIGHT ↑	YOU JUST ME	WAY — DO	LIE	MILLIO1N
	LAND TIME	eCONOMY	AGED AGED AGED		BEHIND
					Share it when you get all the answers

The WordSearch

Dr. Seuss

R	C	H	Y	R	R	E	B	L	U	M	E	LORAX
W	A	S	A	L	L	Y	B	R	E	H	T	HORTON
A	T	T	E	R	M	G	A	A	R	W	X	MULBERRY
C	H	B	C	A	E	A	R	L	N	D	H	WACKY
K	A	W	S	S	Y	X	B	H	E	E	E	TRUFFULA
Y	T	L	M	A	R	G	A	W	N	E	G	THNEED
H	C	G	T	O	H	X	L	N	T	N	G	BARBALOOT
A	E	S	M	O	G	A	O	Y	A	H	S	SMOG
M	O	L	R	L	H	R	O	L	O	T	X	EGGS
T	W	T	A	M	E	O	T	L	B	U	A	HAM
Y	O	L	E	G	S	L	L	W	H	O	H	SAM
N	T	H	E	G	R	I	N	C	H	E	R	SALLY
T	L	A	A	L	U	F	F	U	R	T	L	SNEETCHES
S	E	H	C	T	E	E	N	S	S	T	O	CAT

HAT
WHO
THE GRINCH