Creative Beans After-School Club: Teaching Content

Evening 1
 	
4.00 – 5.30pm
	Introduction to the workshop:
	- Give children an outline of what they will learn (character, plot, setting) and what the outcome of the workshop will be (show past examples of Creative Beans books).
	- Ice breaker games: asking children about the sort of stories they enjoy and their favourite authors.
	Plot:
	- Look at a model of a plot structure:
	    1. Problem: the hero faces a problem.
	    2. Plan: the hero comes up with a plan to overcome the problem.
	    3. Action: the hero puts the plan into action – will the plan succeed?
	    4. New level: the hero has changed in some way.
	- Look at an extract from literature which demonstrates this plot structure.
	- Play 'Sort the Plot' – an interactive game which illustrates this plot structure.
	- Children plan the plot for their story using this model.
	Character
	- Play 'Guess the Character' game, reading out various extracts from children's literature.
	- Identify the two elements of describing characters: personality & appearance.
	- Brainstorm original phrases and words to describe characters.
	- Think about the difference between 'showing' and 'telling' the reader about the main characters.
	- Children plan one or two main characters for their story.
	- 1st person or 3rd person: discuss the differences. Read out extracts from children's literature which illustrate the advantages of each.

Evening 2
 	
4.00 – 5.30pm
	Setting:
	- Discuss what makes good description of setting:
	    1. Describing 5 senses (sounds, sights, smells, tastes, textures).
	    2. Describe senses using alliteration, adjectives, similes and metaphors.
	- Read out various extracts from literature that model excellent setting descriptions.
	- Play 'Where am I?' – a game involving describing contrasting settings.
	- Children plan one or two settings in detail for their story.
	Recap and review:
	- Children recap the plans they have made for plot, character and setting. Children share ideas with each other and are encouraged to contribute thoughts to each other's plans.
	- How to open your story: look at different styles of beginning a story, using examples from children's literature.
	Writing:
	- Children begin writing up their story.

Evening 4 4.00 – 5.30pm	**Writing:** - Children finish writing up their story. **Editing:** - Go through an editing checklist (punctuation, boring words, paragraphs, tenses). - Practice editing skills on a couple of prepared passages. - Children edit their own work and also each other's work.
Evening 5 4.00 – 5.30pm	**Illustration:** - Using examples from professional illustrator, Lucy Panes, share teaching on what makes an excellent illustration. - Children use a variety of mediums to illustrate their stories. **Sharing stories:** - Time permitting, children read out their finished stories to one another.

At the end of the workshop, the children's stories and illustrations are formatted and printed in a professional looking book.