



Helen Hallissey

Title: Rich Pictures – an innovative research method - 'wensa

Classroom-based research can often be linear and prescriptive, failing to access the affective in data collection. This doctoral research looks at a particular way of depicting and capturing the essence of students' creative writing, especially their playwriting skills. I call this particular research method my 'Rich Pictures'. I have evolved this method or data collection tool over twenty years. I believe it can access the affective in the processes of playwriting at individual, small group and whole class levels. Rich Pictures belong to a form of arts-based research called /a/r/tography which involves the combination of an artform with writing. The content of my research is the development of protocols around student playwriting. I call the project 'Writer's Theatre' which I plan to couple with 'Reader's Theatre' which is a well-established reading instruction. Together, I believe they will constitute a unique literacy pedagogy. The writing and the reading belong together. Much has been written about Reader's Theatre but relatively little has been written about students writing playscripts. In this poster presentation, I will use a Rich Picture to capture the essence of this inquiry. The poster may seem fragile and meaningless to you but to me, it speaks volumes.