

Lisa Thompson

Workshop Synopsis:

Around 50 minutes plus time for 3 tasks

Children will need some blank pieces of paper and pens/pencils. There are two images (at the end of this document) that they will need to access to complete a task in Part Two.



- **Part One** - I introduce my writing space discuss where story ideas come from. I explain how I came up with ideas for *The Goldfish Boy* and *The Boy Who Fooled The World*. I ask the children to discuss with each other where they might get creative writing ideas from. *(Approx 10 minutes long plus time to complete the task)*
- **Part Two - Pictures Prompts.** I talk about the places I find ideas. I then show two pictures to try and inspire ideas for the children. Picture one is of an old, wooden door. Picture two is of a shipwreck (both attached at the end of this document). The children now need to choose one of these pictures to create a 'Mind Map' (or spidergram) of ideas sparked by the photo. (They can do two mind maps if they want to.) *(Approx 9 minutes long plus time to complete the task.)*
- **Part Three - Sound Prompts.** Now we are moving onto another way to find ideas... through sounds. I play the students two sound effects.

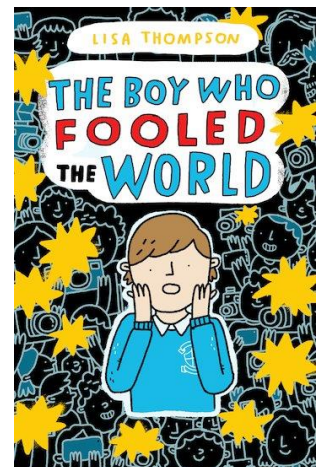
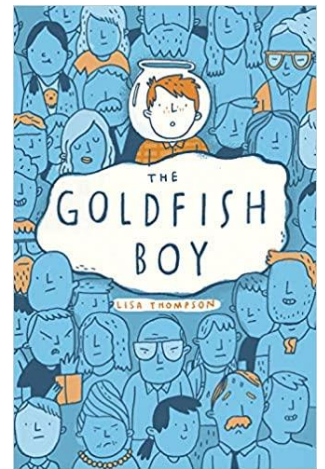
The children now need to do another mind map, but this time can they focus on a setting and a character that might be associated with the sound? (Again, children can do mind maps for both sounds if they wish!). *(Approx 5 minutes long plus time to complete the task)*

- **Part Four - Combining the picture and sound ideas into one** I now ask the children to use their picture mind map and their sound mind map and combine the two to create a third collection of thoughts and ideas. (If they have more than one then they can choose a favourite.)

I ask them to place an idea for a character in the centre of their page. (A name or a description is fine.) This time, they need to branch off into different directions, choosing and writing down some of their favourite ideas from their two mind maps. They should add any new ideas too and see if they can combine the two together. *(Approx 6 minutes long plus time to complete the task)*

Part Five - What next? My writing tips. A recap of what we have done, all the ideas we have created and I give my top tips for planning, writing, editing etc. *(Approx 10 minutes long)*

- **Part Six - Q&A**



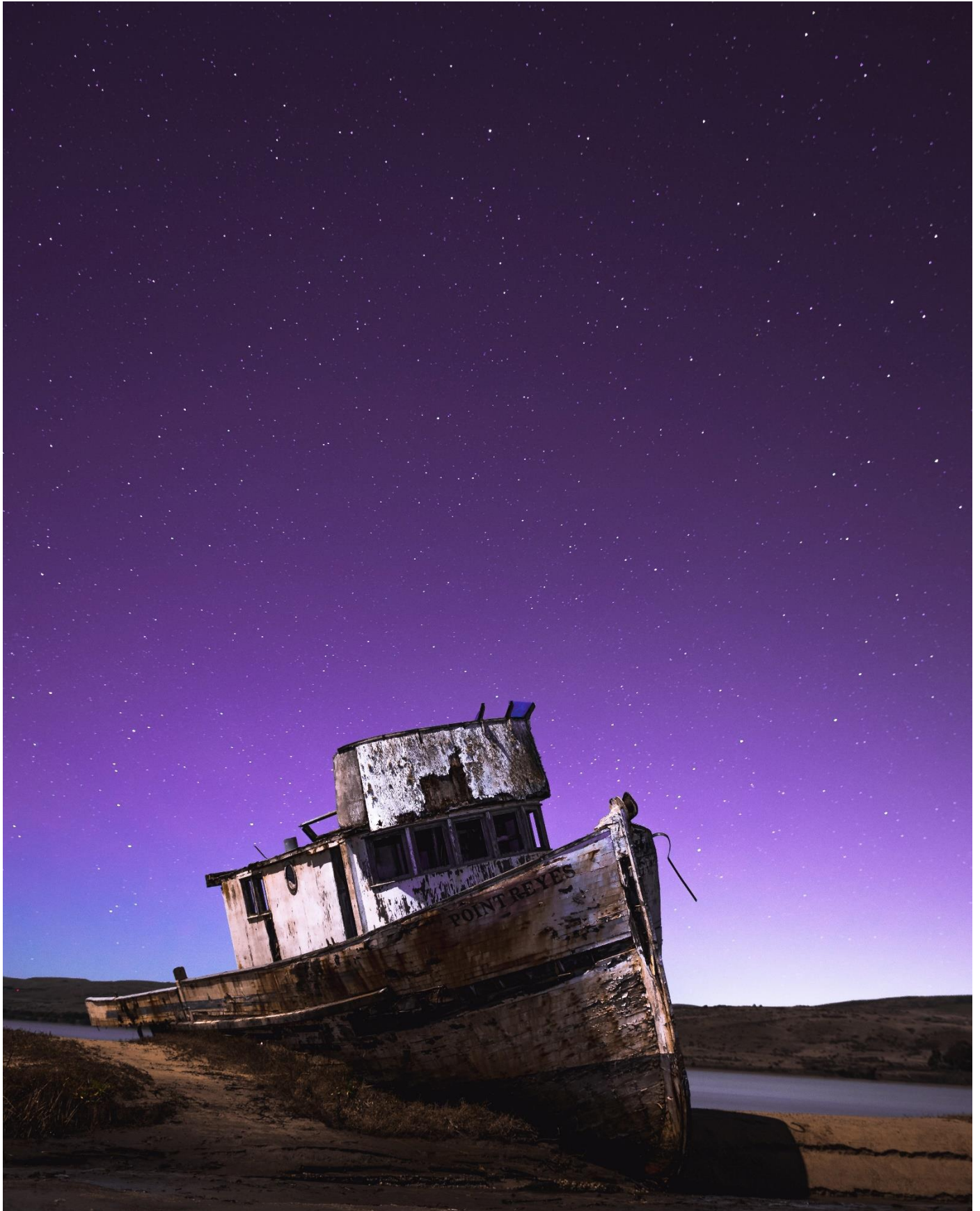


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