



Quaky Cat Contracts

Teacher Notes

To the teacher...

The below contracts are just a few ideas I have put together which are all based around the book, 'Quaky Cat', which was based on the September 2010 Canterbury/Christchurch earthquake. Of course since then, we have also had the Boxing Day 2010 and February 2011 quakes to deal with.

I have simply put down a few ideas which I plan to use in my classroom, which may also be of use to other teachers. I am simply sharing my ideas which may be of use to some others. As I often work in small/sole charge schools, I have tried to write it in a way so children from various levels can be involved. It may be simply a matter of the teacher choosing which classes/children do which letters/sections, and/or simply going through each one in the order you want them to do it. As you know your school/class/children the best, you just use it in any way you see fit. Of course you and your class will think of other things as well as merging ideas.

This resource is freely given to teachers, although I have asked that unless the school/teacher is in Christchurch, that they make a donation for the resource to any agency/charity which is related to the Christchurch quake.

I hope it is of some use. To those people affected by the quake/s, our thoughts are with you, and to those people who have rallied around to help us, we thank you very much as well. Kia Kaha Christchurch, and Thank You NZ (and the World).

A. Cover Page: Make up your own Quaky Cat cover page. Be creative, use colour and make sure that you also include the author, illustrator and your name on it. You may want to do this the same size as the actual book, or in a poster form using larger paper/card.

B. My Questions and Answers: Make up your own questions and answers from the book. You may want to do this as a book as a whole and/or do it page by page. Try and write it in a way where other children can do the sheet (don't write the answers under the questions).

C. Author and Illustrator Report: Make up your own Illustrator and Author report based on Quaky Cat. You may need to do some further study to find out more about these people. Try and include as much information as possible and in your own words (don't simply copy).

D. My Quaky Cat Fun Page: Make up your own Quaky Cat fun page/s. This may include such things as word finds, crosswords, cartoons, jokes, mazes, fun facts etc. Try and make it as much fun for both juniors and seniors (you may need to do 2 sets).

E. My Junior Big Book: Make up your own Junior Big Book (on your own or in a group/paired situation) for use in the junior area.

Remember to make sure that the words used are not too difficult and that you use large print. You may choose to use colour in all your illustrations, or you may choose to use colour in some of them while only doing the outline of others, allowing juniors who read the book to be able to colour in some of the images themselves. Although you need to base the book on Quaky Cat, you can use your own story line and can make up your own title. Another option is also to use flip-up pictures.

F. My Quaky Cat Model: Make up your own Quaky Cat model. This may be 2D or 3D. Try and make it look as realistic as possible. It may be a small or large model and you can use various art forms to do this. Just check with your teacher first.

H. My Special Message to the kids of CHCH: Like in the book, write up your own special message to the children of Christchurch. Think carefully.

I. My Book Review: Make up your own book review about the book Quaky Cat. Try and do this in an in-depth and interesting way.



J. My Audio Book: Make up your own audio book based on Quaky Cat. This is where you are going to record the actual book onto either CD or tape. You will need to know the book well as the whole point of this is so junior children can read along using the book and tape/CD. Also think about using different things for sound effects etc.

K. My Quaky Cat Puppet/Cuddly Toy: Make up your own Quaky Cat puppet or cuddly toy. You will need to think carefully about all the things you will need (fabric, string, wool, how to join the bits together etc). Show your plan to your teacher before beginning.

L. My Glossary/Pictionary/Dictionary: Make up your own Quaky cat Dictionary/Pictionary/Glossary which uses words from the book Quaky Cat. Try and do it in a bright and colourful way, so not only does it give information, but so it also looks great too.

M. Contributor Study: Make up your own topic study based on one, two, or all three of the extra contributors in the story. You can do it in any way you want, but make sure it is informative. These people are well known so you should be able to get lots of information on them.

G. My Personal Presentation:

Make up your own personal presentation (or as a pair/group) either based on the story Quaky Cat, based on your own experiences or based on experiences of someone you know. This is a personal presentation so what you are doing is standing up and presenting it in a way where you are talking to people. You are welcome to include things like posters, clips, newspaper cuttings etc. Also try and think about ways that you can include the audience in your presentation (to keep them engaged with you-so they don't get bored).

N. My Quaky Cat/Christchurch

Song/Poem: Make up your own song or poem (or both) based on the story, or on Christchurch itself. Try and be as original as you can. Record it (either as an audio or video track) and perform it to others.

O. My Junior Quaky Cat Worksheet/

Contract: Make up your own Quaky Cat worksheet which junior children will be able to do. Don't make it too hard but also don't make it too easy. Remember to also do an answer sheet. Remember to try to make it fun to do.

P. My Senior Quaky Cat Worksheet/

Contract: Make up your own Quaky Cat worksheet/contract which senior children will be able to do. Don't make it too hard but also don't make it too easy. Remember to also do an answer sheet. Remember to try to make it fun to do.

Q. My Quaky Cat/Canterbury Special

Icon/Badge: Make up your own Quaky Cat or Christchurch/Canterbury special icon or badge. Try and be as original as possible. Remember you want this static image to represent something (trying to get an image to portray a clear message).

R. My Story Telling Presentation:

This is where you are going to do your own story telling presentation to a class. You will need to practice this as you will need to try and do it without reading from a book. Think about using props and sounds.

S. The Story Continues:

Quaky Cat was written based on the September 2010 earthquake in Canterbury/Christchurch. The story is written around that day in September 2010. Since then Christchurch has another hard one on Boxing Day 2010, and another big one on February 22, 2011. Your job is now to either make a new story, or continue the story from the original Quaky Cat book (like a part two or next chapter book), based on the quake or quakes that followed after the September one. How the story goes is up to you. Be original and think carefully about it. It could be for junior/senior or all levels.

T. My Quaky Cat Video Presentation/TV Programme/News Item:

Your job is to either do your own Quaky Cat video book, do a video cartoon based on Quaky Cat, or to do a news item which has something to do with Quaky Cat (as if it was a lost news item etc).

V. My Choice:

Think about an idea that you would like to do that isn't listed in this contract, and then go and have a word to your teacher to see if you can do it.

W. My Quaky

Cat Art work/

Picture:

Make up your own Quaky Cat art work such as a poster, using pastels, textiles, paper mache, paint etc.



X. My Quaky Cat Board Game:

Make up your own board game (or similar) which is based on the story. Try and make it not only exciting but also visually pleasing (colourful etc). Don't forget to write a list of instructions of how to play it as well.

Y. Quaky Cat Play:

Make up your own play based on Quaky Cat. You will need to not only produce a script, but also think about what you will need in relation to people, costumes, props etc. Perform the play either in person or video it (or both).

Z. Quaky Cat T-Shirt Design:

Your job here is to first make up your own Quaky Cat design. It could include reference to the earthquake or it may just be a cute and colourful cat. Try not to use many (if any) words. Remember the image needs to be clear. Then your job is to put this design onto a T-Shirt (or similar). You will need to discuss this last part with your teacher to find out the best way to do it. Be original.

CHCH. My Christchurch/Canterbury Study (Middle/Senior):

This is where you (either on your own or in a group) need to do your own mini study/topic on the Canterbury/Christchurch area, specifically based on the events of either the September or Boxing Day 2010 Quakes, or the February 2011 quake (or in fact all of them). Try and be informative and look at it from different viewpoints. This report/study is to be a factual one.

U. My Special Message to the

Author and Illustrator:

Make up your own special message (either as a letter or card) to the author and illustrator of Quaky Cat. Think about not only the story itself, but also about the fact of why they made the book (such as experiences, helping Christchurch children, making a fun story which has a real storyline, helping to raise funds for Christchurch etc). You may in fact like to speak with your teacher and see if you can actually email/post this off to them (they come from Canterbury). Try and write it from both points of view (having been in the EQ and not been in the EQ).

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