Let’s Think in English KS2 Lesson:
What has happened to Lulu?

Reasoning pattern: intentions and consequences

Overview
This lesson explores the Charles Causley’s poem *What has happened to Lulu?* and considers what is implied about Lulu and the composition of the poem as a series of questions.

Key words
rhyme, rhythm, verse, ballad, narrative

Materials
Copy of text.

Lesson plan

*Concrete preparation (groups/whole class)*

Read *What has happened to Lulu?* with the class.

Ask pupils to discuss what has happened to Lulu (they must use textual evidence to support their points)

Take feedback on different possibilities.

*Social construction (groups and whole class)*

Pupils to discuss in groups:

What age do you think Lulu is? Is this important?

Pupils should provide textual evidence to support their points where possible.

*Cognitive conflict (groups and whole class)*

Pupils to discuss in groups:

Why is the poem written as a series of questions?
Take feedback.

Metacognition (groups and whole class)

An anthology to Causley’s work commented:

“…it is often difficult to distinguish between his writings for children and those for adults. He himself declared that he did not know whether a given poem was for children or adults as he was writing it, and he included his children's poetry without comment in his collected works.”

Elicit from the pupils what Charles Causley meant by this. Ensure that there is clarity before moving on.

Ask the pupils to consider the following questions:

- Who do you think the poem is written for?
- How might the poem be different if it was written for adults and not children?

The poem provides questions and no answers. Did this make the poem more or less interesting for you?

Take feedback.

Bridging (own work)

Write the letter that Lulu would have left for her mother and her family explaining why she has left in such a hurry.
What Has Happened To Lulu?

What has happened to Lulu, mother?
What has happened to Lu?
There's nothing in her bed but an old rag-doll
And by its side a shoe.

Why is her window wide, mother,
The curtain flapping free,
And only a circle on the dusty shelf
Where her money-box used to be?

Why do you turn your head, mother,
And why do tear drops fall?
And why do you crumple that note on the fire
And say it is nothing at all?

I woke to voices late last night,
I heard an engine roar.
Why do you tell me the things I heard
Were a dream and nothing more?

I heard somebody cry, mother,
In anger or in pain,
But now I ask you why, mother,
You say it was a gust of rain.

Why do you wander about as though
You don't know what to do?
What has happened to Lulu, mother?
What has happened to Lu?

Charles Causley