

**Pre-Show**

# SPIN: Poetry Performance and Workshop

A poetry gig for primary schools performed by a rapper, storyteller and poet.

## APPLES AND SNAKES

### Apples and Snakes

Apples and Snakes is England's leading organisation for spoken word with an international reputation for producing engaging, transformative and inspiring poetry experiences. We commission and develop artists, produce events and participation programmes. We amplify ignored voices, champion poets and performance poetry, and challenge expectations of what poetry is and can be.



In-Schools Touring  
**Pre-Show  
Schools  
Resources**

A set of resources to use before the workshop and show to help you share information with your school colleagues, parents/carers and pupils so everyone knows what to expect.



## Information for the **teaching staff** taking part in the workshop and show

*To copy and paste the below text, when pasting into a document, right click and select the 'Keep Source Formatting (k)' option.*

### Before the workshop and show

- Share what is happening and when with your colleagues in school – you could print out and stick up the next page on your staffroom wall.
- Let parents, carers and the wider school community know what is happening – we have provided some wording below to help, just add the details then copy and paste.
- Prepare your pupils – there are some ideas on how to do this later in the resource pack. We also have a separate Visual Guide resource to support with this.
- Make sure you have the resources needed for the workshop.
- Let any teaching/support staff who will be present during the workshop and show know what to expect so they can support pupils to access the experience.

The Touring Producer will be in contact with you before the visit to provide a Project Information sheet which will include a breakdown of the day, names of visitors, the space needed and when, how the space will be set up, any resources required, and the number of pupils we expect to take part in the project. They will also provide you with the relevant paperwork, such as agreement form, photo permission forms, and risk assessment.

**A NEW  
DIRECTION**

for  
**Primary  
Arts**




## Information to share with **parents, carers and the wider community** before the show

We are delighted to let you know that our school is taking part in Primary Arts – a new creative, cultural programme for London primary schools from A New Direction. We have booked a touring session and Apples and Snakes will be visiting us in school to provide an experience and workshop for pupils in [INSERT CLASS/ES TAKING PART] on [INSERT DAY AND DATE].

SPIN is a live poetry gig for young people. There are three performers; a poet, a storyteller and a rapper, who each perform a 15 minute set, creating a 45 minute performance. The performers use techniques such as call & response to make sure the show is very interactive and children are fully engaged. Workshops will be delivered by skilled poet educators, empowering pupils to create their own spoken word poetry written during the session. The activities will support speaking, listening and collaboration skills in a safe creative space.

## Information to share with **pupils** before the show

 10 minutes

Before the workshop and show you can let your pupils know what to expect using some of the key info and discussion questions below.

*Apples and Snakes are coming to visit us to do a workshop and a show! In the workshop, the visitors are going to help us make something. In the show, we will watch the visitors perform.*

*This is the summary of the show. Listen carefully and then tell your talk partner what you think the show will be about.*

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### Pre-show discussion questions

- What do we need to remember when we have visitors to school?
- How can we make sure that we all enjoy the show? For example, we will need to sit and listen very carefully.
- In some parts of the show, they might ask us to take part – what do you think they might ask us to do?



- *How will we know when to stop taking part and it is time to sit and listen again?*
- *What do we do at the end of a show to say thank you?*
- *What does call and response mean?*
- *How is poetry different to storytelling and rapping?*
- *What do you think the title of the show means?*

Depending on your pupils, for example pupils with SEND/younger children, you might want to share extra information about what sensory or interactive elements might happen (see below), or you might choose to leave that as a surprise.

#### **Interactive elements to the show**

- There may be call and response, sometimes when warming up, there may be dancing.
- The students will be sat for the show and are encouraged to join in when invited to do so.
- The performance is very relaxed and students with additional needs should feel able to do whatever they need to feel comfortable.

#### **Sensory elements to the show**

- There may be music.
- Possible sound through a microphone and PA system.





## About A New Direction

A New Direction is an award-winning non-profit organisation working to enhance the capacity and agency of children and young people in London to own their creativity, shape culture, and achieve their creative potential.

Primary Arts is supported by The City of London Corporation City Education Trust (29084), a City of London Corporation charity. We are extremely grateful to them for their support.

**#PrimaryArts**

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**A NEW  
DIRECTION**  
We create opportunity