

## **Activity 4 : Dramatization (Freeze Frame and Thought Tracking)**

### **Freeze Frame**

1. A freeze frame is when children act out a scene of a given story or a given picture, and they freeze at a point as instructed.
2. This still or “frozen” scene is usually at the most exciting moment (e.g. the height of tension, the funniest moment, the most dangerous moment etc.)
3. Freeze frames can be used to help children explore a concept or theme associated with the story (e.g. courage) or, to explore different possible outcomes for a situation which can lead to a deeper discussion of the characters and story.
4. For an effective experience, parent should ensure that the child gets into character. This can be done by ensuring that the body language and emotions are acted out accordingly.

### **Thought Tracking**

5. Thought tracking is when the children speaks the thoughts and feelings of the characters whom they are portraying in the freeze frame. This is done when the parent taps on the shoulder of the child. The character comes to life and speaks out his or her inner thoughts. This helps to build on pupils’ speaking skills.
6. Initially, children might give very simple responses. However, as they become more confident in expressing themselves, they will give lengthier and more creative responses.
7. Thought tracking allows for parent to understand what the child is thinking about and which aspect of the story that the child might need more help in. This is called improvisation. Parent can help improvise the child’s freeze frames and their thought process by questioning them, using the following cues:
  - ✓ What is the character doing?
  - ✓ Why is the character doing that?
  - ✓ How is the character feeling? Why do you say so?
  - ✓ Why is the character body language as such/
  - ✓ If the character could say something, what do you think the character might say?
  - ✓ What do you think the character might do next? Why do you say so?
  - ✓ If I allow the character to move, what will the character do?
8. It is important to note that there are no wrong responses in a Drama lesson. Allow for child to explore and be creative in their responses. Guide the child through questions and praise them for exploring different possibilities.

## An example of thought tracking

9. This example is contextualized in the book “Keesha’s Bright Idea”, which can be found in NLB’s online book repository “Tumblebook Library”.

TUMBLEPAD

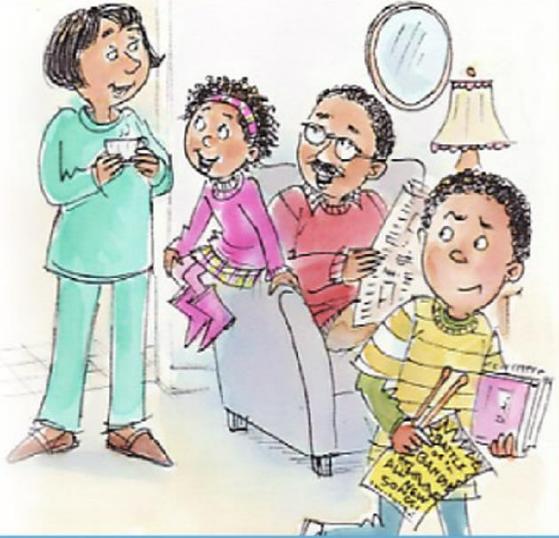
Mom asks Keesha what her project is.

**“An energy diet!” Keesha says.**

“Using up less oil, gas, and electricity.”

Dad smiles. “Saving money while we save the earth! Sounds good to me.”

Who cares how good it sounds? If it’s Keesha’s idea, count me out. Anyway, I’ve got a bigger problem on my mind.



Help Off

Auto

Manual

10. Parent can get child to dramatize this scene, prior to reading the next page.
11. Child can choose to be any character from this scene.
12. Once child is in role, parent can then do a thought track.
13. Parent to tap on child and get child to speak the inner thoughts of the character. For example, if child chooses to be Keesha’s brother (the boy in the picture), child might say,
- “Oh dear, Keesha is now telling mum about her bright idea. I hope I am not dragged into this.”**
14. From here, once child is out of role, parent may then question child:
- ✓ Why did Keesha’s brother say that?
  - ✓ How do you think Keesha’s brother feel?
  - ✓ What do you think might happen next?

15. To make the overall experience fun and engaging, parent may also improvise by acting the scene out with the child.

16. If there is more than one character, this is what parents can do. For example, if one child is playing the role of Keesha and another the role of Keesha's brother, parent may question the children before thought tracking.

- ✓ What is Keesha doing? Why do you say her?
- ✓ What do you think Keesha is saying to her mother?
- ✓ If I allow Keesha to move, what might she do?

17. Parents may then go on to read the following pages. It is essential is to make links between what was dramatized in the scene with the rest of the book. Hence it is important for parents to guide children to read before and after, in order to make sense of the story holistically.