



DYLAN THOMAS

ROCK AND ROLL POET - KS2

Activity title:	Whole School Assembly (KS2)
Description:	Dylan Thomas and 'Welshness', a sense of identity.
Year groups:	Whole school
Dylan Thomas Text:	None specifically
Equipment required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dylan Thomas quote• PowerPoint with pictures.
Suggested procedure:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dylan Thomas was born and raised in Swansea but spent much of his life in Newquay and Laugharne, west Wales. These locations inspired him to write some of his best poetry and plays. Wales and 'Welshness' is evident in most of his work. He was very proud of his roots.• He said about Swansea, "... an ugly, lovely town ... crawling, sprawling ... by the side of a long and splendid curving shore. This sea-town was my world."• We have a special word in Wales, 'hiraeth'. It's a Welsh word that has no direct translation but is best interpreted as a deep longing for someone or something, often in connection with the land of Wales. "What connections do you make with being Welsh? Ask the children for ideas. Dylan Thomas was proud to be Welsh and we can infer that from the affection he shows for his home country in his work.• Why should we feel proud to be Welsh? Use PowerPoint as stimulus for discussion.
Extension activities:	Looking at more detail at St David's Day as a celebration of Wales – see below
Relevant links:	Religious link: Celebrating Wales – St David was, and is, a very important figure to the Welsh. St David's Day and the story of Dewi Sant. Saint David said shortly before his death: <i>Be joyful and keep your faith and creed. Do the little things that you heard and saw me do.</i>
Prayer:	Dear God, Thank you for helping us to appreciate what a wonderful country we live in. Help us to always be proud of our roots and where we come from. May we always pass on that pride to the people we meet. Amen.

* These assembly ideas are also suitable to be used in Lessons