

STEPHEN LAWRENCE DAY

BE THE NEXT  
POETRY  
SENSATION

22 APRIL

# BE THE NEXT POETRY SENSATION

**Spoken Word is writing that is meant to be read out loud.**

**Some examples of spoken word you might be familiar with are stories, poems, monologues, slam poetry, rap and even stand-up comedy.**

These spoken word poems were created by Lilly Cooper, Luke AG, Tom McCann and Suhaylah Yusuf from a brilliant organisation called \*Eggtooth Project.

To mark Stephen Lawrence Day, the group created a short spoken word film entitled '[To Sea or Not to See](#)' that offered questions, statements and clear honest facts highlighting the four main focuses of Stephen Lawrence Day.

## **Literary criticism exercises:**

- 1) What career did Stephen Lawrence aspire/want to be?
- 2) What percentage of people in your town/city/borough are white? Are BAME? How are these figures different to those for Hastings?
- 3) What advice would you give your parents or carers and others in your local community to convince them to make the community a safer place for all different types of people?
- 4) What advice would you give to the young people in your local community to convince them to make the community a safer place for all different types of people?



\*Eggtooth is a project based in Hastings, on the south coast of England, that works with children, young people and families, to tackle academic under-achievement, mental health and to create opportunities within the community. The project's name comes from the hard, toothlike projection on the beak of an embryonic bird or the snout of an embryonic reptile that they use to break through the eggshell when they hatch.

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## Creative writing exercise:

Feeling inspired by the video? Why not create your own spoken word – it doesn't have to be poetry, it could be a story, monologue, or even stand-up comedy.

Create a poem, as those in the video did, called 'Live Your Best Life: A Poem for Stephen' research so that this poem is either about Stephen's life or about legacy or how you will pursue your dreams whilst also making the world a better place for all people.

Get 5 top tips for writing your own spoken word from [PowerPoetry](#).

Why not read out what you have created to the people at home – the whole point of spoken word is for it to have an audience. Or, if you are on social media, post a clip of you reading your poem and tag us in using the hashtags #BecauseOfStephen and #StephenLawrenceDay.

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We would love it if you would post what you're doing on social media to let us and others know how you are celebrating Stephen Lawrence Day.

Build the impact of the day and help others to see what you're doing by using the hashtags

#LiveOurBestLife

#BecauseofStephen

#SLDay

#StephenLawrenceDay

#ChallengeAccepted

And don't forget to tag us in so we can share your good work!

Twitter /s\_lawrencetrust

Instagram /s\_lawrencetrust

Facebook /stephenlawrencecharitabletrust