Big Ideas for Small Spaces – SLANZA Conference 2013 – Kylie Young

1. **Title**

2. **Who am I?**

3. **What am I talking about?**

4. **So…let's have some fun!**
If you want to join in at home…
- Grab a piece of paper and some crayons (or pencils, whatever you have on hand)
- Scribble all over that piece of paper (swirls, scribbles, dots, stripes, everything!)
- Put it aside, we'll get back to it later

5. **My tips**

6. **Keep a record**
This one's at the top for a reason! Snap a quick photo of each display you do and store it somewhere safe (on the computer or in print). If you ever think about repeating a display you can refer back to it to know how you did it. (Or in my case if you needed a photo for a presentation you won't get the dreaded realisation you never took one!)

7. **Make things interactive**
I've found children (and sometimes teens!) love being involved in a display. Making a display interactive often means they'll take more notice of it (since they've been a part of it) and point it out to others. Doing this occasionally also means less work for you!

8. **Keep it simple**
A tip that's ok to break, but one to always keep in the back of your mind. Try not to overload the display with every great idea you have, stick to one theme and run with that. Bits that stick out, sparkle, move and dangle things if used all at once become a bit too much. Sometimes simple is best (and easier!)

9. **Keep your displays**
Keep your displays if possible, I use folders and keep one display in each file.

10. **Then reuse**

Since you've made the effort to keep your displays start reusing them! Here is an example of an ANZAC display I've reused in two different places (in fact I use nearly this same display every year).

11. **But…think about where you'll store everything**

12. Photo

13. Photo

14. **Colour outside the lines**

You don't always have to use a display board, here I've used the ground to create a crime scene outline. I've also turned an elevator into a TARDIS (good example of keeping a record, I don't have any photos of it!) Try putting stuff on windows, turning doors into portals to other places (platform 9 ¾, TARDIS) and on the roof.

15. **Find the good stuff**
When looking for images try to find the highest quality one you can, that way if you plan to blow it up huge like the Cat in the Hat I made, it won't turn into a blur of pixels.

16. **Have a plan**
Having a plan follows on from the keeping it simple tip. Quickly doodling out your ideas means you know what you'll need for the display so you can get it all together. It also indicates whether you're planning on doing too much. It's at this point that you can decide how big you want things or if the words (if there are any!) should be in the middle, side or upside down. I try to always have at least a quick doodle on a scrap piece of paper, sometimes I find the fantastic ideas in my head don't always work but I didn't realise until I tried to draw it!

It also pays to keep a plan of what displays are going up when, make a special calendar for your displays and mark them on it.

17. **Time put in = time it's up**
Pretty straight forward, don't spend weeks agonising over a display when it's only going to be up for a few days or a week. Put your effort into displays they will be up longer (maybe for a whole school term). Displays up for a few days can have a lot of impact (think about keeping them simple!) I try to put a bit more work into my displays that will be up for a month while the ones only up for a week or so I keep a bit simpler and often try something new with, because if it fails at least I tried and it will only be up for a week!

18. **Where do I get my ideas?**

19. **Inspiration**

20. **Daysoftheyear.com**
 I don't use it all the time but when I'm stuck for an idea it's always handy to have a look and see if there are any 'days' I could build a display around.
For example coming up in August there is Book Lovers Day on the 9th and Bad Poetry Day on the 18th. July also had Chocolate Day and Cow Appreciation Day!

21. **Pinterest.com**
I tend to just browse here every-now and then (you could literally spend hours on here). There are a number of boards for school library displays but don't limit yourself to just these for ideas, you might get a brainwave from a craft or art!

22. **How do I do it?**

23. **Resources**

24. **Dafont.com**
Great font website, you're bound to find the font you want on here and probably more than you'll ever need! No sign-up required.

25. Example of fonts I use in this presentation (and one I decided not to use).

26. **Sxc.hu (stock.xchng)**
Excellent stock photo website if you're looking for backgrounds or objects. Do need to sign up but it's free. Be aware that some photographers like to be notified if you're using their work (I tend to just skip these and find something else). Some keywords I've used to find backgrounds for displays and to make fonts are grunge (my favourite), texture and background.

27. **Pixlr.com**
Awesome website if you haven't got Photoshop or want to edit an image really quickly. No sign-up or download required. Has three options:
- 'Pixlr editor' which is the most like Photoshop
- 'Pixlr Efficient' for quick adjustments (add a border, fix up a photo etc)
- 'Pixlr Playful' where you can change the tone of your photo but that's about it

28. An example of what Pixlr looks like, this is how I added all the borders to the photos in this presentation.

29. An example of how I put together the backgrounds for this presentation in Pixlr.

30. An example of how I create custom letters for displays using WordArt in Publisher. Also possible by just printing out a cool background and cutting out your own letter from it.

31. **The small stuff (time for a lot of photos!)**

32. How big the small display board is that I use. Not that big at all!

33-44. Photos

45. **Time for a bit more fun!**
If you're joining in from home…
- Grab that piece of paper you scribble on, plus scissors and a crayon on pencil
- Draw the outline of letters (or shapes) over the scribbles
- Cut them out!
- You've now made your own custom letters!

46. **The big stuff (a lot more photos!)**

47-60. Photos

61. **Your kit**

62. **Questions?**