

# key stage one activities

The following activities are aimed primarily at Key Stage 1 pupils and focus on the theme of **words and pictures**.

## Library role play

Children love pretending. Create a library in class by arranging a desk and chair beside the book corner. Add appropriate signs for borrowing and returning books, a pretend date stamper etc. Make time during the day for different pupils to be the librarian and different groups to choose a book to take to read at their desk. Give your librarian a silly grey wig, glasses on a chain and frumpy costume, inspired by those familiar clichés.

Later, take your class to visit your local public library to find out about the great activities and fun resources available there, and have everything in place for children to join up and receive their membership cards on the day. Does the real librarian look anything like your costume back in the classroom? Probably not! You'll have lots of laughs while introducing children to the idea of using, and even running, a library.

## Put on a show

Select a picture book with plenty of action, eg. *Where The Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak, *The Night Pirates* by Peter Harris/ Deborah Allwright or *Sometimes I Like to Curl up in a Ball* by Vicki Churchill/Charles Fuge. Ask the children to silently mime appropriate actions as the story is read out. Practise a few times until the children are confident and then perform this simple drama for another class or perhaps even for parents.

## Play time activities

If the weather permits, set up a quiet outdoor area in a sunny or leafy corner of the playground so that children can sit down to read at play time or lunch time. Provide a mat, a bench or a few chairs and a big box of books. Encourage them to read to one another, or to share picture books.

Children love to perform. Challenge them to get together in small groups and use lunch times during Children's Book Week to put together a mini drama of a well known picture book or story such as *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen. It could be something you have just read in class, or a book they decide on themselves. Watch them all together on the last afternoon of Children's Book Week.

*Children's Book Week 2009 takes place from 5-11 October but your school can celebrate reading for pleasure at any time of the year. For more information visit*

**[www.childrensbookweek.org.uk](http://www.childrensbookweek.org.uk)**

*With thanks to primary teacher Gillian Crombie  
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