

key stage two activities

The following activities are aimed primarily at Key Stage 2 pupils and focus on the theme of **words and pictures**.

Send a postcard

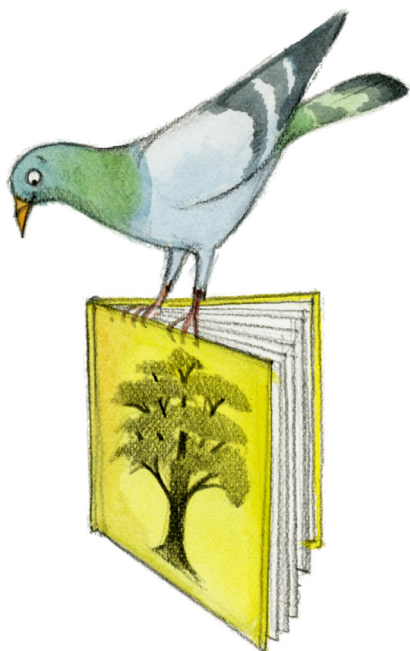
Postcards are a perfect example of words and pictures coming together. Ask the children to think about a character who goes on some kind of journey or trip. Inspiration could come from *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl, *Flat Stanley* by Jeff Brown, *The Midnight Fox* by Betsy Byars, or *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* by CS Lewis.

Have children make postcards written from one character and addressed to another. Ask them to illustrate the front with scenes from the novel. Display the finished work in the school library with copies of the novels which inspired the postcards to encourage new readers.

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

*With thanks to primary teacher Gillian Crombie
Illustration by Emily Gravett*



Family fun

What were our grandparents reading? Involve the class in a fun piece of research. Invite each child to choose an adult he/she knows well to interview eg. Parent, grandparent, older neighbour with questions such as:

- What was the subject's favourite childhood book?
- Can he/she provide a brief description of the plot?
- Can he/she explain why it appealed at the time?
- Does he/she think it could still be relevant for children today?

Some interviewees may still have copies of their favourite book. It may be possible with permission to gather them in to create a really interesting, thought-provoking classroom display which incorporates writing by children, photographs of the interviewees and illustrations of book covers. Further information or illustrations from the books may be found with a simple Google search.

Traditional playground rhymes and games are at risk of being lost or forgotten. Have the children research the subject.

- Ask parents, grandparents or older neighbours for the playground favourites they used to enjoy, eg skipping songs, chasing tag, marbles and hopscotch.
- Look on the internet for ideas.
- Check in the library for nursery rhyme books or other ideas.

Children work in small groups to produce a laminated card complete with rules and illustrations for each game/rhyme. The finished cards can be compiled into a big book which can be left in a designated area of the playground alongside any equipment which may be needed, eg skipping ropes, balls, marbles, hoops, chalk.