

How to be Brilliant at

MAKING BOOKS



Brilliant Publications

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How to be Brilliant at Making Books

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Introduction

How to be Brilliant at Making Books contains 42 photocopiable ideas for use with 7-11 year olds. The book provides a flexible, but structured resource for encouraging children to write and to value their writing.

The sheets are self-explanatory and ready to use; the only extra resources needed are a pen or pencil and sometimes drawing materials and extra paper. Use of the computer is a bonus and a word-processing program, used whenever possible, should facilitate drafting and redrafting.

How to be Brilliant at Making Books supports many of the programmes of study for Key Stage 2 English in the National Curriculum. To help you make best use of the book, each activity has been coded on the contents page to indicate its main relationship with the programme of study.

The letter 'W' refers to the programme of study for writing. This is followed by a number and a lower case letter to indicate the relevant sub-section and aspect.

For example:

W1(b) indicates Writing, sub-section 1 (Range), b – 'write for an extended range of readers...'. .

The making of books provides motivation and a purpose for writing. Children are led into a greater appreciation and awareness of audience and begin to develop their own critical evaluation skills. The photocopiable sheets encourage a wide range of skills allowing the children to compose, create, publish and respond to print.

The technological side of book production involves lots of problem-solving and engages the children in gathering information, prioritizing, negotiating, decision-making and evaluating.

A crucial factor in writing and making books is sharing them with an audience. Children benefit enormously from the feedback they receive when their writing and books have been shared and valued. The ideas in this book need not be restricted to your language lessons and can be used to enhance all areas of the curriculum.

Give your pupils plenty of flexibility and freedom to make the books how they want them. They will have their own ideas and will gain from their ownership.

The majority of the activities are open-ended. Answers are given below for the two which are not:

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The well-known book is *Winnie the Pooh*.

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Each publisher has its own ISBN prefix. For example, 1 897675 is the prefix for Brilliant Publications. Larger publishers usually have shorter prefixes.

Links to the National Curriculum

The activities in *How to be Brilliant at Making Books* allow children to have opportunities to:

1. Range

- a** write for varied purposes, understanding that writing is essential to thinking and learning, and enjoyable in itself. They should be taught to use writing as a means of developing, organizing and communicating ideas.
- b** write for an extended range of readers. They should write in response to a wide range of stimuli, including stories, their interests and experiences, and the activities of the classroom.
- c** use the characteristics of different kinds of writing, including imaginative writing. They should be taught to use features of layout and presentation.

2. Key Skills

- a** write in response to more demanding tasks. As pupils write for a wider range of purposes, they should be taught to distinguish degrees of formality in writing for unfamiliar audiences. They should be encouraged to make judgements about when a particular tone, style, format or choice of vocabulary is appropriate.
- b** plan, draft and improve their work, and to discuss and evaluate their own and others' writing. To develop their writing, pupils should be taught to:
 - **plan** – note and develop initial ideas;
 - **draft** – develop ideas from the plan into structured written text;
 - **revise** – alter and improve the draft;
 - **proof read** – check the draft for spelling and punctuation errors, omissions or repetitions;
 - **present** – prepare a neat, correct and clear final copy.

Pupils should be encouraged to develop their ability to organize and structure their writing in a variety of ways, using their experience of fiction.