

# First Level Literacy Activities

1.3.21

## Spelling

Keep up your spelling practise—spend 15-20 minutes each day working out your words.

Once a week, get someone to do a spelling quiz with you. Get them all correct? Find the next list on the blog.

## Talking and Listening

### **Newsround**

Watch an episode of Newsround and discuss some of the main news stories with your family. What was the story about? Where was it happening? Who was in the story?

## Daily Reading

Spend some time each day reading, either to yourself or with a family member.

## Recommended Reads

What books have you been reading? Have you read anything recently that you thought was worth recommending to a friend/someone else in school?

Use the book review template on page 3 to help you share your thoughts on your latest books with us.

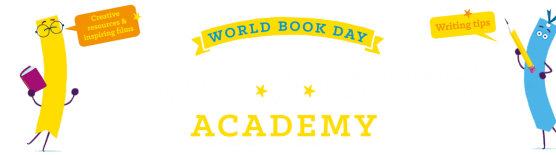
## Roald Dahl—

### Reading Comprehension

One of my favourite authors when I was little was—and still is—Roald Dahl. I've put an information sheet about him on page 4, with some questions to go with it.

Can you then use your answers to the questions to help you make a poster about him?

## Author Academy



As it is World Book Day on Thursday, I've put some tasks up from the Author and Illustrator Academy. Have a look on page 2 for some links to authors talking about their books, and giving you some tips on writing your own characters and adventures. I've also added extracts from their newest stories, with some questions to go with them.

(These are two of this year's £1 books, so if you enjoy the extracts, why don't you grab yourself a copy and read the rest?).

## Writing

### **Instructional Texts Week 2—Keeping clean**

This week can you write us a set of instructions about how to keep yourself clean? It could be how to wash your hands, how to brush your teeth, how to wash your hair... Think about the steps involved in the task. What do you need? What do you do first? Be clear with your instructions.

**Success Criteria:** have you remembered...

- A list of what you will need (kit/ingredients etc.)
- Simple, precise language that is easy to follow
- Chronological order
- Time Connectives (words like First, Then, Next)
- Imperative Verbs (bossy verbs)

## Author Academy

### Katherine Rundell

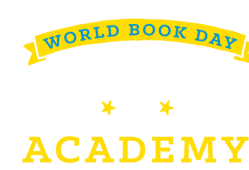
<https://youtu.be/dSMoHVMmPts>

A few of us in school have read Rooftoppers or The Explorer by Katherine Rundell. Listen to her here, talking about how she came up with the idea for Rooftoppers, and her new book— Skysteppers.

You can read an extract of Skysteppers (I've posted it next to this grid). After reading it, have a think about these questions.

1. What strikes you about the first sentence of the story? What does it tell you about Matteo?
2. What image do you get of Paris on page 5? Write down and words or phrases that stand out.
3. How does Katherine Rundell contrast the setting of the rooftops, on page 5?
- 4.

Katherine sets you a challenge at the end of this video—Choose a character from your favourite book. Write a story inspired by what might have happened to them before the story started . . . Remember, there are many adventures that we go on in life!



### Derek Landy

<https://youtu.be/qouOztRoS34>

Derek Landy wrote the Skullduggery Pleasant books about a skeleton detective. In this video he tells you how to write characters that feel real.

Read the extract from Skullduggery Pleasant: Apocalypse Kings next to this grid and answer:

1. What do you learn about Adedayo on page 1?
2. How would you describe Adedayo's bond with his grandmother?
3. What do you think is the significance of the 'polished wooden box'?
- 4.

Derek talks about giving characters emotional depth in order to make them feel more real. He suggests that a good starting point is to put in a little piece of yourself – how would you feel and react in the same situation? Imagine that you, like Adedayo, have just realised that you are capable of magic. Consider how you would feel about this. How would you react? What would be your best thoughts and ideas, and what would be your worst?

## Book Review

Book Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

Fiction/Non Fiction \_\_\_\_\_

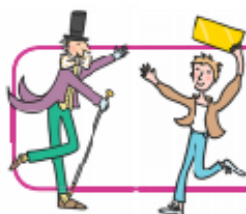
Who would you recommend the book to? Why?

What is the book about? Try to summarise without giving away spoilers (don't tell us how it ends!)

Book Illustration

# ROALD DAHL

Roald Dahl was born on September 13th 1916. He was born in Wales. Dahl isn't a Welsh name - both of his parents were from Norway. Roald's father died when he was four years old.



## Did you know?

Roald Dahl could not find anyone to publish Charlie and the Chocolate Factory for years.

He used to get in trouble at school and was told off a lot. Some people think that he based the character of Mrs Trunchbull in Matilda on one of his old teachers. He didn't enjoy school. He didn't like following rules and wanted to travel to other countries instead.

After finishing school, he went to many different places like Canada and Africa. He flew planes in the Second World War and was badly injured in a crash in Egypt.

After the crash, he moved to America and started writing. When he started, he didn't write children's books. He wrote stories for newspapers and magazines. At this time, he married his wife, Patricia Neal.

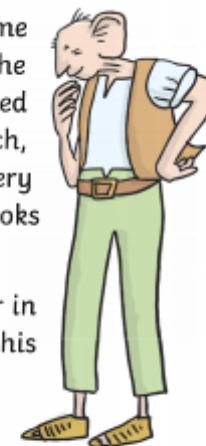
## Did you know?

Roald Dahl helped to write the film, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang.



Roald Dahl loved telling his children bedtime stories and these bedtime stories gave him the ideas for his children's books. His first published children's book was James and the Giant Peach, which was published in 1961. After this, every book he wrote was successful. Most of his books have been made into films.

Roald Dahl sadly died on the 12th of November in 1990. He was 74 years old when he died. In his lifetime, he wrote 19 children's books.



# Roald Dahl

Answer the following questions using full sentences that give as much detail as possible.

1. In what year was Roald Dahl born?

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2. Where were his parents from?

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3. Why did he not like school?

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4. Where did he crash during the war?

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5. What was Roald Dahl's wife's name?

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6. In what year was his first children's book published?

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