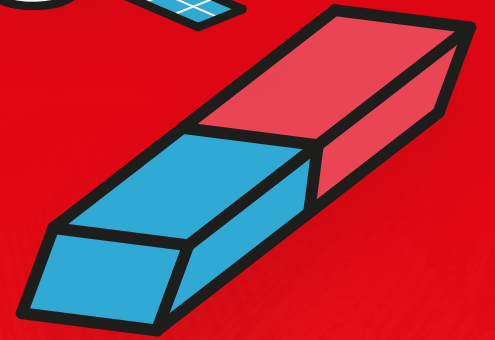
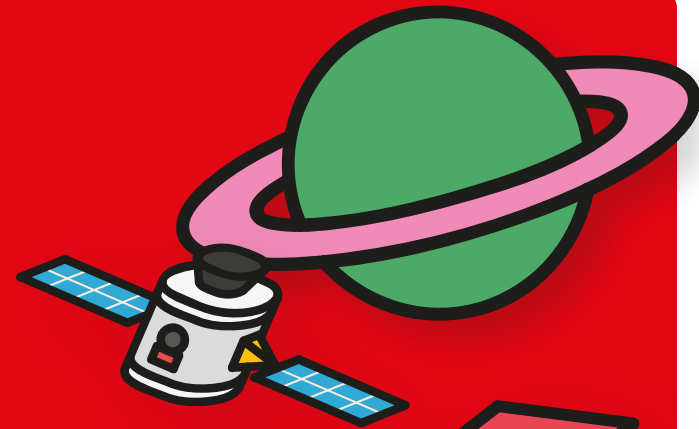


English Home Learning Pack:

Writing Ideas



WRITE A STORY

Do you want to be the next **J. K. Rowling**? Let your creative ideas loose on the **page** and you might just be. So pick up a **pen** and get lost in your very own world of **imagination**.

Decide on a genre

It might be helpful to select a genre for your story before you start writing it. This is the type of story you want to tell. Will it be fantasy, sci-fi, mystery, or adventure? These are just a few suggestions to get you started, but there are plenty more to choose from!



Choose a setting

Next you need to choose where your story will take place. How about a graveyard for a ghost story, a deserted island for an adventure, or a castle for a fairy tale? Remember – you don't always have to stick to just one.

Always make sure that the setting suits the story you're writing.



Perfect the plot

You've selected the genre, setting, and characters. Now all that's left to do is decide what's going to take place in the rest of your story.

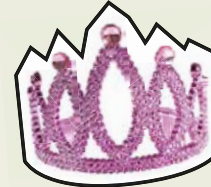
- Sometimes the hardest part about writing a story is starting it. Once you've got your first few lines, the rest should follow.
- If you're stuck for ideas, read some pages from your favourite book. Work out what you love about that story and how you can write something similar.
- Some of the best stories include an unexpected twist. Add one at the end to surprise your readers.
- Think of a title that perfectly sums up your story. Try to make it engaging so that people want to read it.

Select the characters

Every story needs characters. Decide how many you want and who the main character or characters are going to be. You might want to base them on people you know.



Remember to describe what your characters are wearing. This will make it easier for your readers to imagine them.

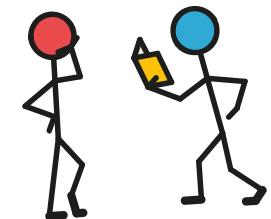


Maybe one of your characters could wear a mask to hide their identity.



Read it aloud to friends and family

Once you've put pen to paper, ask your friends and family to listen to your story. They might have some suggestions to help make it even better or a great idea for the sequel!

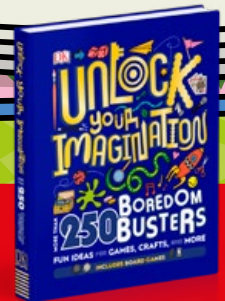


Now it's your turn! Get inspiration from this page, and start writing your very own story!

Suitable for 5-7 years

Content from: *Unlock Your Imagination: More Than 250 Boredom Busters*

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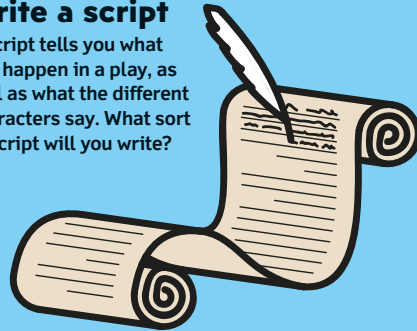
PUT ON A PLAY!

Let's put on a **performance!** To create your own **play** you'll need some friends and a lot of **imagination**. Here are some ideas to help you write and perform your own play.



Write a script

A script tells you what will happen in a play, as well as what the different characters say. What sort of script will you write?



Make some props

! Every play needs costumes and props (objects) to make it realistic. You could buy props or get creative and make your own, such as this crown and sword.

Crown

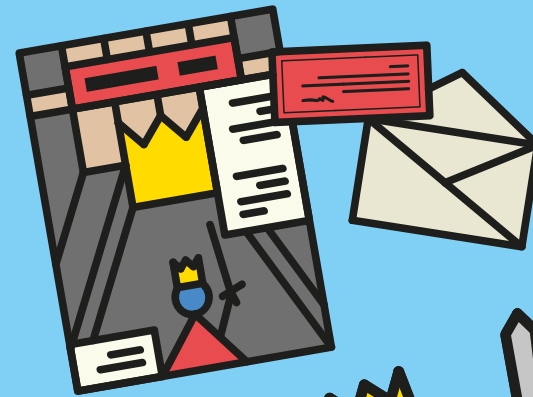
If your play has any kings or queens in it, they will need crowns to make them look the part.



STEP 1 Find a strip of card long enough to wrap around your head. Cut some triangles out from the top.



STEP 2 Colour your crown, then draw some jewels and stick them on. Tape the ends together to finish.



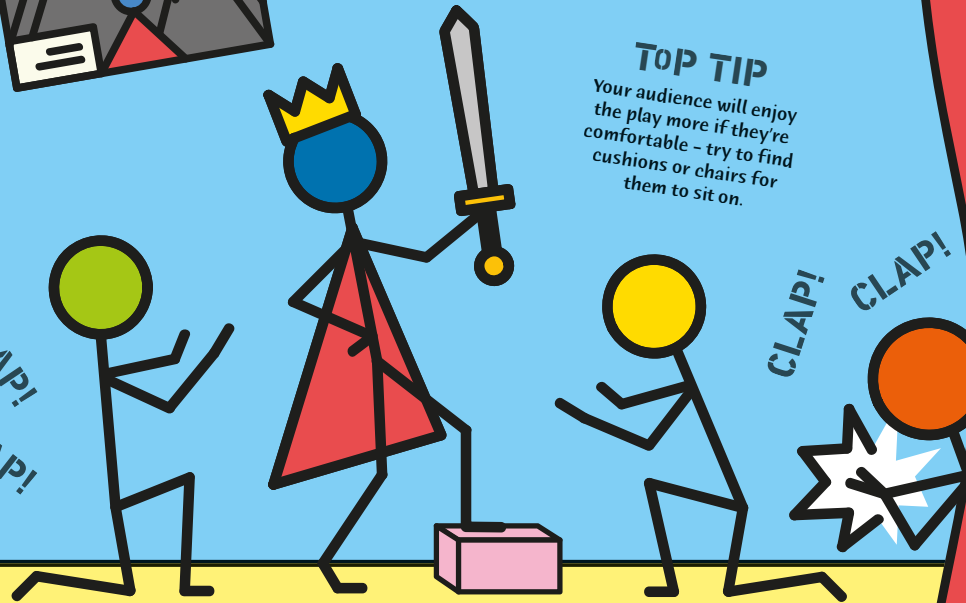
Attract an audience

Before you put on your play, you need to let people know that it's happening. Make invites and send them out to your friends and family. They should contain the performance time and place.

TOP TIP

Your audience will enjoy the play more if they're comfortable - try to find cushions or chairs for them to sit on.

CLAP!
CLAP!



CLAP!
CLAP!

Sword

Pretend fighting will look much more realistic if your characters have swords!



STEP 1 Draw a sword shape onto cardboard, then cut it out.

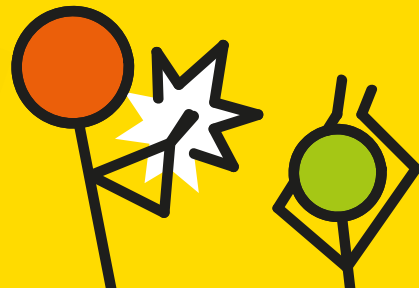


STEP 2 Decorate with colour and tin foil.



On with the show

When your actors have learned their lines and have costumes to wear, you can show everyone what you've been working on. Concentrate, relax, and, most importantly, have fun!

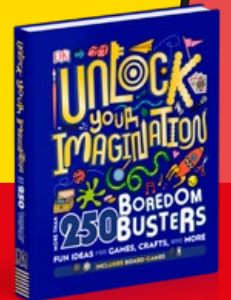


Now put a play together! Why not perform your play via webcam to your family and friends?

Suitable for 5-7 years

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WRITE A SONG

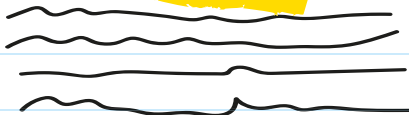
Ever wanted to be a **songwriter**? Here we show you how. While there is no one set way to write a song, here are a few ideas to **get you started** on the road to singer-songwriter stardom!

Write the lyrics

First decide what your song is going to be about. It's often best to write about someone or something you know well – it might be about your best friend, your favourite sport, or your pet hamster! Then try writing the words, or lyrics, to the song.

Songs are often broken into small sections of about four to six lines, called verses. It's great if you can make pairs of lines rhyme, but they don't have to.

VERSE 1



CHORUS



The second verse should be different from the first verse. It should move the story on or discuss a related subject. You can have as many verses as you want!

VERSE 2



CHORUS



Hum a tune

To help you find a tune, try humming a few notes out loud and see how they sound. Repeat different sounds until you get a tune you love.

Add instruments

Can you play any instruments? If so, you might want to play the instrument as backing for your song. Not all songs have lyrics, so you might want to create a tune with no words. This is called an instrumental.

Do your research

Try listening to different types of music to inspire you. Listen to whatever takes your fancy, whether it's pop, rock, blues, or rap. It's good to hear music you might not normally listen to, such as jazz, showtunes, or classical music.

Duet

Writing with a friend is great for ideas, and singing with a friend will help you get over any performance jitters. This is called a duet.

Change a song

Pick one of your favourite songs. Then change the words to make it funny or sad. Or make it about something completely different. Try changing the tune. How would a rap sound as a pop song?

Star performer

You can try recording yourself or do a live performance. Set up a "stage" at home. What props might you need? Choose your costume with care. Will you have background singers? Invite friends and family round to watch!

Make a musical

Now you've written your song, why not try making a musical! This is a group of songs that connect together to make a story. Turn to pages 16–17 to learn how to add some dance moves.

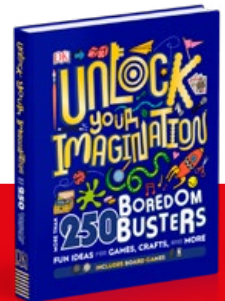


Once you've written your song, get active and add some dance moves to your performance!

Suitable for 5–7 years

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Get your voice heard

Crafting a great speech

To write a great speech, focus on two or three main points, grab attention with powerful facts, and use a style you're comfortable with speaking aloud.

Throughout history, great speakers have inspired others to take action with stirring speeches. Public speaking can be a bit scary, especially at first. Here are a few useful tips.

Where can you make your voice heard?

A debating club, or giving a presentation in class, are good ways to practise public speaking.

Speaking with confidence

Practise in front of friends, or video yourself to see what works. Look up at your audience and speak clearly. Breathe deeply to calm any nerves.

Great speakers from history

Nelson Mandela

Mandela's powerful speeches include one he made when he was sent to prison for his political views in 1964.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Roosevelt's brilliant speeches, such as 1948's *The Struggle for Human Rights*, helped to bring about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Abraham Lincoln

Spoken in 1863, Lincoln's *Gettysburg Address* was a short speech that created an inspiring image of America.



Using tips from this page, write a speech about the environment or another cause that you're passionate about.

Suitable for 7-9 years

Content from: *How to Make A Better World* by Keilly Swift
Available now

