BOOKS ALIVE!

EDUCATION PACK



KS2

2026 SOUTHPORT
Elegantly eccentric

KS2 COMMUNICATION THROUGH FAIRYTALES AND POETRY LESSON PLAN

CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES

To develop positive attitudes to reading, and an understanding of what they read, by:

- Listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks.
- Increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books, including fairy stories, myths and legends, and retelling some of these orally.
- Identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books.
- Preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action.
- Discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination.
- Recognising some different forms of poetry.

LESSON 1: THE FAIRYTALE IN ME

OUTCOME: STUDENT TO COMPOSE AN ACROSTIC POEM COMBINING A FAIRYTALE CHARACTER'S ATTRIBUTES WITH THEIR PERSONAL EXPERIENCES.

PREPARATION:
Print out lesson resources:

- Acrostic poem template
- Suggested adaptation resources
- Quick finisher task
- Optional Homework exercise

TASK 1: EXPLORE FAIRYTALES IN "THE JOLLY POSTMAN OR OTHER PEOPLE'S LETTERS"

Show the class The Jolly Postman or Other People's Letters. Lead a class discussion on the unique characteristics of fairytales. Emphasis how fairytales are traditional tales that have been passed down through generations to convey information and cultural values.

Guide students to think back to the story, identify the fairytale characters and discuss who they relate to the most and why?

TASK 2: ACROSTIC POEMS

Hand out the Acrostic poem template. Explain that the class is going to write an acrostic poem inspired by an attribute of a fairytale character and how it relates to their personal experiences.

Ask the question: "What is an acrostic poem? "Clarify that **an acrostic poem is a type of poem in which certain letters in each line spell out a word or message, usually vertically, that relates to the poem's theme.**

Divide the class into six groups and ask them to brainstorm the attributes of the fairytale characters. Ex.) Little Red Riding Hood is smart, The Big Bad Wolf is strong, or Jack is brave. After brainstorming, each student will individually choose a fairytale character trait and create an acrostic poem connecting that trait to their real life.

Example prompt: How are you brave like Jack?
Example poem:

I am Brave like Jack
Just like Jack, I stand up to **B**ullies
Even when it can feel **R**eally scary.
In my family I chase **A**ll of the spiders away.
Last year I felt ner**V**ous about my dance recital
But I stay**E**d calm and did my best!

TASK 3:

Have students read their poems aloud to each other, encouraging using different volumes and tones. Encourage children to visit the Books Alive! Festival in Southport during October half term, where a beautiful story trail based on the Jolly Postman will be featured!

CROSS CURRICULUM ACTIVITY TIP:

Science: Continue to use acrostic poems to describe environmental processes. Ex) Create an acrostic poem for the word, chrysalis, and describe the lifecycle of a caterpillar.

SUGGESTED ADAPTATION FOR LESSON:

For students that struggle with independent reading or writing. Please print out the poetry word sheet and the fairytale acrostic poem template. Students will be asked to cut out words and create an acrostic poem based on the word fairytale, describing how they make them feel. Once they choose their words, they can stick them beside the correct letter. Encourage them to choose different words outside of the word sheet.

fairytale

FAIRYTALES MAKE ME FEEL...

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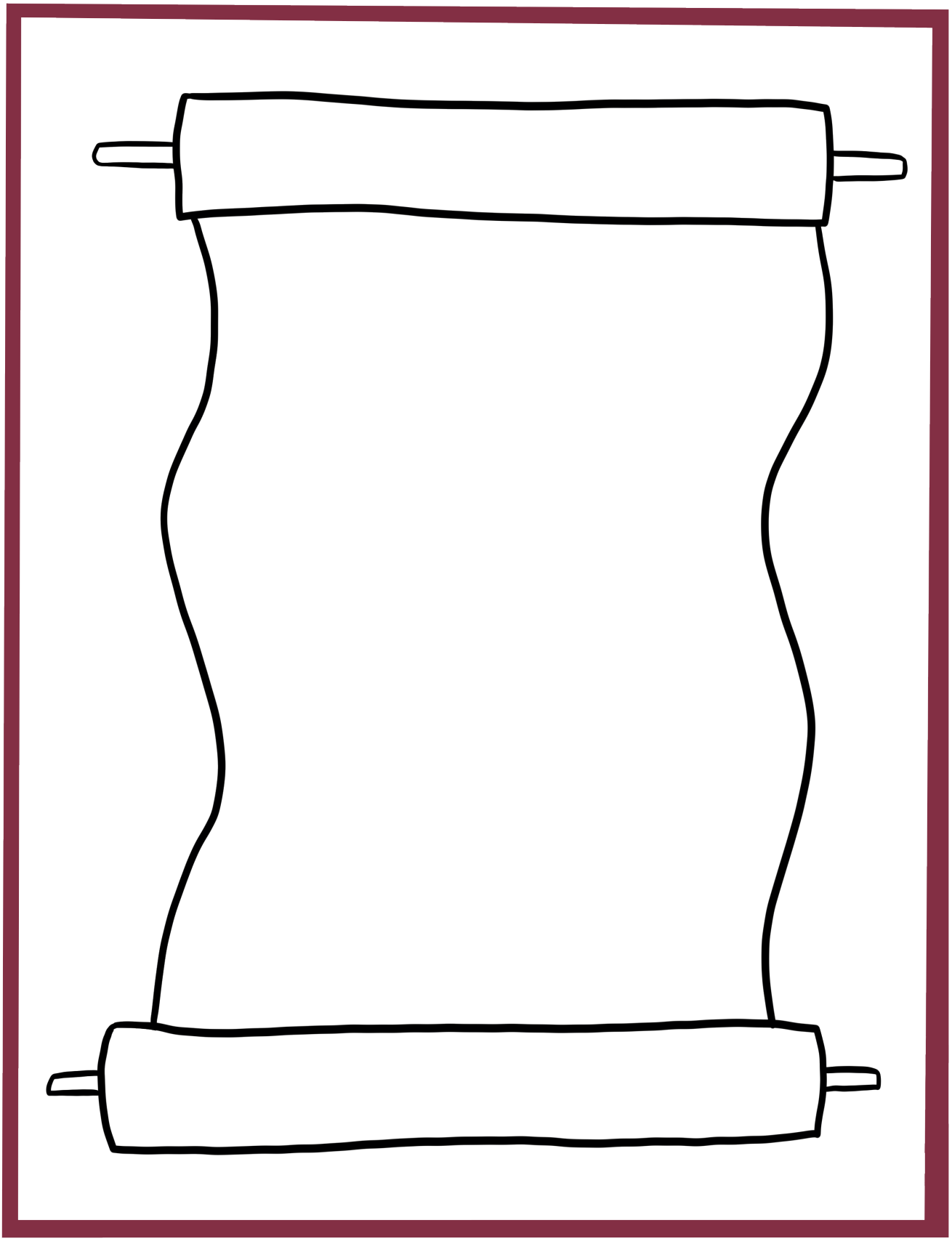
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FEARLESS	RESTFUL	AMAZED
FRIGHTENED	RELAXED	ASTONISHED
AMBITIOUS	YOUTHFUL	LIVELY
AMUSED	YOUNG	LUCKY
INTERESTED	TERRIFIC	EMPATHETIC
INTRIGUED	TRANQUIL	EASY-GOING

QUICK FINISHER TASK:
ROYAL ANNOUNCEMENT POSTER

Write and illustrate a royal notice from a king or queen in a fairytale world that speaks about you in the future.



OPTIONAL HOMEWORK EXERCISE: FAIRYTALE MESSAGES

Think about your favourite fairytales and create an example of one of the following types of communication. An invitation, a warning or an apology.

