

Take 5 Ideas

Here are some ideas for responding to the books provided in the Riverbridge Reading Race, provided by The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education. The Take 5 ideas are optional activities that you can use to earn some extra points towards your Reading Race total. For each year group, one of the texts has a Take 5 detailed set of notes. Each set of notes contains five simple activities which will develop children's comprehension skills and strategies and develop their imagination and creativity for writing. Once you have used these, you can think about similar responses using the themes of: Explore it; Illustrate it; Talk about it; Imagine it; and Create it for the other books in the Riverbridge Reading Race.

The Take 5 Ideas have been created for schools to share with parents and carers as part of home activities, which can be used over the summer. They are designed to allow children to develop their own responses to Power of Reading texts.

The five key areas covered in the activities are:

- Explore it: Reading of text and/or illustrations and questions to develop children's awareness of language and vocabulary, including how this can be used for effect.
- Illustrate it: Drawing tasks to develop children's visualisation skills - a key aspect of comprehension.
- Talk about it: Questions or talking points to support children's understanding of key parts of the text, encouraging them to refer back to the text to support their ideas.
- Imagine it: Talking points and questions that encourage deeper responses to texts, thinking beyond the text and linking to real life knowledge and understanding.
- Create it: A range of different ideas for writing in response to a text, developing children's imagination and creative ideas.

Tips

Most activities are reading, talk and play based and need little more than familiar household objects, and sometimes a pencil and paper to complete. Other drawing materials such as coloured pencils or crayons would be useful, but are not essential. You may wish to complete these activities in the home learning yellow book.

The notes do not have to be used exactly – they are designed to be a springboard for children's own imaginations and creativity.

We hope children will be able to use the activities as inspiration for reading and writing and it may be that they end up taking the learning in another direction. The idea is that the activities are stimulating and fun, it is not meant to become a chore, instead encouraging you to talk about books together. The notes do not have to be completed in one sitting. They are designed so that you can dip in and out of them as they wish. You may want to do one activity a day over the course of a week or, if children are immersed in the text, they may want to do more than one activity in one sitting. If you do take a break and go back to them, we would always recommend re-reading the text extract before starting the next task, to remind children of the story.