

Section 2: Developing writing

Activity 5: Accidents will happen!

Objective

To group written sentences together in chunks of meaning or subject. (Year 1 Strand 10)

What to do

This activity explores the way in which minor accidents can be interpreted as funny incidents.

- Slapstick is a feature of much of children's humour. Explain to the children that slapstick involves characters falling, slipping and crashing or bumping into things in an exaggerated and humorous way, without actually being hurt. (Emphasise that the incidents may not be so funny if they actually happened as someone could be injured.)
- Display photocopiable page 29 'Accidents will happen!' and read the sentence under the first example. Invite the children to suggest an appropriate sentence to describe the picture depicting the boy slipping on the banana skin. Draw attention to the way the two sentences follow one another to tell a story. Discuss possible events that might follow the next two incidents.
- Encourage the children to use the empty boxes at the bottom to write their own 'accident' sentence and an amusing consequence.
- Provide each child with a copy of the photocopiable sheet to complete by following the instructions and recalling the whole-class activity.

Activity 6: What made that noise?

Objective

To select from different presentational features to suit particular writing purposes on paper and on screen. (Year 2 Strand 9)

What to do

This activity introduces different ways of representing sounds within stories.

- Explain that the children are going to think of ways of representing sounds in their funny stories.
- Open the 'Little Rabbit Foo Foo' extract from the CD-ROM and ask the children which word represents the noise of Little Rabbit Foo Foo hitting mice. Think of alternative words for 'bopped', for example, 'biffed', 'banged', 'clattered'. Do the same with the extract, 'Up, Up and Away!', focusing on the sounds of the parachute – 'WHOOOOOOOOOSH!' 'SWISH!' and 'SWASH!'.
- Open 'What made that noise?' from the CD-ROM. Look at the pictures together and read the words. Decide which words most effectively describe the sounds made in the pictures. Then drag and drop these words to the correct pictures.
- Provide individual copies of photocopiable page 30 'What made that noise?' and ask the children to add one or more cartoon-style words to each picture to represent the sounds being made.

What's on the CD-ROM

Little Rabbit Foo Foo, and Up, Up and Away!

- Text extracts to read and discuss.

What made that noise?

- Drag and drop sound words to match pictures.