

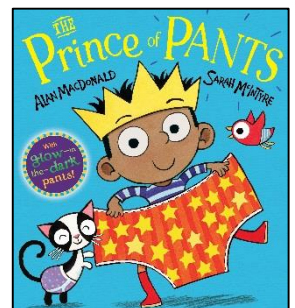


The Prince of Pants

Written by Alan MacDonald and
illustrated by Sarah McIntyre

1 – Introducing the book

- Read the first page of the story where the Prince is wondering which of his many and varied pairs of pants to put on. Look at all the various different pant designs on the inside cover page and ask children to talk to a partner about which ones they like best and why. Do you have a favourite pair of pants that you like to wear?
- When the prince is looking for his pants in the story, his mother the Queen says “Look harder, my dumpling. They’re probably right under your nose”. Once you have read the story all the way through once, go back and ask children to see if they can spot the pants hiding in each picture.
- Try playing ‘pants and seek’: At various points in the day, tell the children you’ve hidden a pair of pants somewhere in the classroom within plain sight. Can they spot where? When they do find them, ask them to use appropriate positional language to describe where the pants are, for example, on top of the water jug, next to the coat hooks, behind the whiteboard etc.



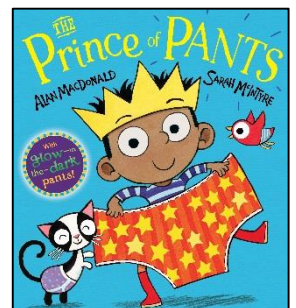


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1 – Introducing the book

- Play a game of ‘who’s the prince/princess of pants?’ Send one child out of the room and then give another child a cut out picture of a pair of pants to hold behind their back. Ask all the children to put their hands behind their backs, so it’s not obvious who is holding the pants. Then invite the ‘pant detective’ back into the room. He/she has three guesses to identify the pants prince/princess. If the pants detective gets it right, they get another turn. If they are unsuccessful, the child who was holding the pants gets to be the detective instead.



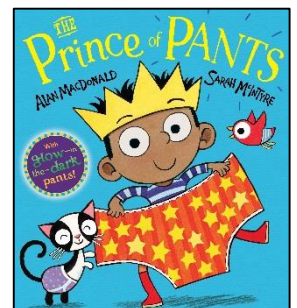


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2 – Pegging out the pants

- Cut out some pant shapes from card and write different numbers on them from within a chosen number range. Use this resource to help children practise number sequencing. Create a simple washing line in the classroom and provide some pegs. Peg a pair of pants at one end of the washing line and ask children to count forwards or backwards from that number, pegging the right pairs of pants on the line to complete the sequence. Alternatively, peg all of the pants on the line in a muddled order, and invite children to rearrange them.
- You could also ask children to only peg the pants that are odd or even, or the pants that are greater than/less than a given number.
- Another option is to have a given number of dots on one pair of pants and the corresponding numeral on another pair. Children can then use their counting skills to pair up all the pants correctly.



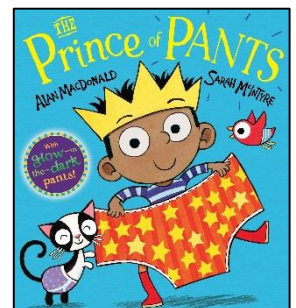


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3 – Perfectly personalised,
patterned pants

- Provide blank pants outlines on paper or card, and provide a range of tools for children to use to explore different printing techniques to decorate them with different patterns. For example, they could print with sliced fruit/vegetable shapes such as halves of pepper, celery sticks, carrot batons or apple slices; with numerical equipment such as dice or numicon; with toys such as plastic dinosaurs or trucks; or with household items such as bubble wrap, cotton buds or potato mashers.
- Children could also explore repeating patterns with coloured dot stickers arranged in different ways.
- Give children a large sheet of paper and help them to fold it concertina style. Show them how to cut along a pants-shaped outline leaving the folded edge intact. Unfold to create a chain of pants. Ask children to decorate each pair on the chain to reflect a different theme, for example animal pants, spaceman pants, sports pants, under the sea pants, dinosaur pants, pirate pants etc. Provide a range of collage materials, wrapping paper and colours for them to use to do this.





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4 – Pants party time

- At the end of the story Prince Pip has a pants party. Why not recreate this in your classroom? children could decorate pants-shaped biscuits, eat pants-shaped sandwiches and play pants-themed party games such as ‘pin the pants on the person’ or ‘pass the pants’ – when the music stops and you’re holding the pants you answer a question or do a forfeit.

