



**ROALD DAHL**  
**STORY**  
**EXPLORERS**  
**RESOURCE PACK**



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# TEACHER INFORMATION AND PREPARATION

Dear Teachers,

We hope you are looking forward to the forthcoming Roald Dahl Story Explorers Creative Literacy Programme.

Within this resource pack you will find lots of information regarding the content of the film, the author and five of his stories. The pack also contains a variety of activities, designed to encourage your students to explore the text creatively. These should hopefully inspire some ideas for delivering drama in the classroom. The programme offers tasks covering all types of learning, including writing, drama and art and the extracts and activities leave lots of opportunities for further development.

First, you will have noticed that there are two versions - for KS1 and 2. Both films explore George's Marvellous Medicine, The BFG and Matilda, but the KS1 film looks at Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and KS2, The Witches. On each activity page you will see a label that states whether the task is in the KS1 or 2 film. **2**

Children will be instructed to have paper and something to write with as they watch and will also be asked to pause the screen whilst they complete tasks so they should have no problems taking part at home without any help from an adult.

Both films last approximately 27 minutes without pausing for activities. Stopping to complete the necessary tasks however should take most children about 1 hour in total.

If you are delivering this programme in the classroom then do take photos and videos of the children's work and share it with us. We would be delighted to receive their medicines, news reports and drawings, and will endeavor to post a selection of work on our website and social media pages.

You may want to send this resource pack out in its entirety or pick certain tasks that you would like children to complete.

We look forward to working with you and appreciate your support at this challenging time.

Rachel Adamson-Brown

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# AUTHOR'S FACT FILE

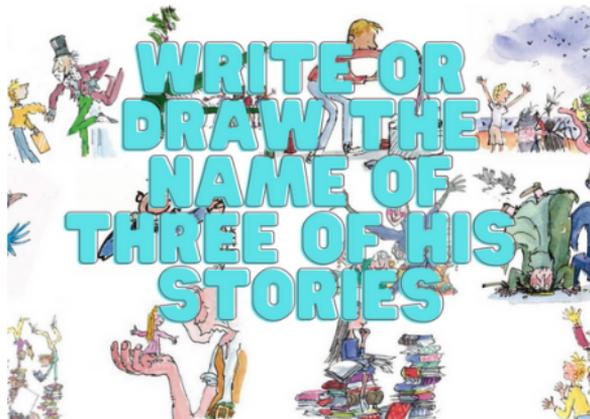
Roald Dahl wrote more than 20 children's books, including *The Twits*, *Matilda* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Many of them have been turned into films. He was born on 13 September 1916 and died on 23 November 1990. Every year, since 13 September 2006 - on what would have been his birthday - there has been a special Roald Dahl Day to celebrate his stories and their characters. This year would have been his 105th birthday!

Here are some fantastic facts about his life.

- He invented more than 500 new words and character names.
- He wrote most of his books in his garden shed.
- One of his most famous books almost had a different name (*James and the Giant Peach* was almost called *James and the Giant Cherry!*)
- His books were inspired by the people and things around him.
- Roald Dahl fought in WW2 and was a spy.
- Roald Dahl wrote the film storyline for the fifth James Bond movie *You Only Live Twice*.

# ACTIVITY RECAP

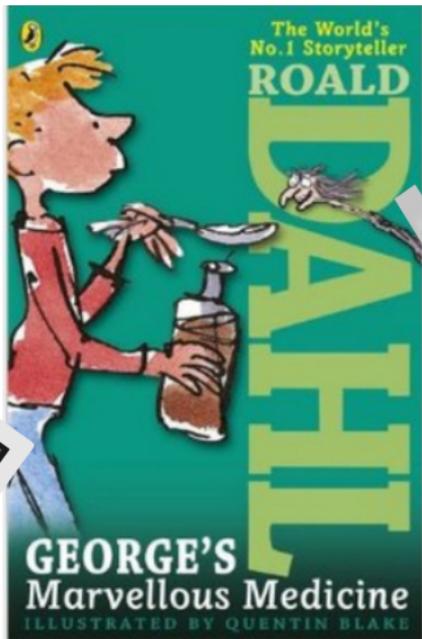
FIRSTLY, CHILDREN ARE  
ASKED IF THEY ALREADY  
KNOW ANY ROALD DAHL  
STORIES?



**THE CHILDREN LOOK AT 4  
CLUES TO SEE IF THEY  
CAN GUESS WHICH BOOK  
THEY BELONG TO.  
THEY THEN HEAR AN  
EXTRACT FROM THAT  
STORY BEFORE  
COMPLETING A TASK  
SET BY THE PROFESSOR**



# GEORGE'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE



# GEORGE'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE

So-ho! thought George suddenly. Ah-ha! Ho-hum! I know exactly what I'll do. I shall make her a new medicine, one that is so strong and so fierce and so fantastic it will either cure her completely or blow off the top of her head.

I'll make her a magic medicine, a medicine no doctor in the world has ever made before.

George looked at the kitchen clock. It said five past ten. There was nearly an hour left before Grandma's next dose was due at eleven.

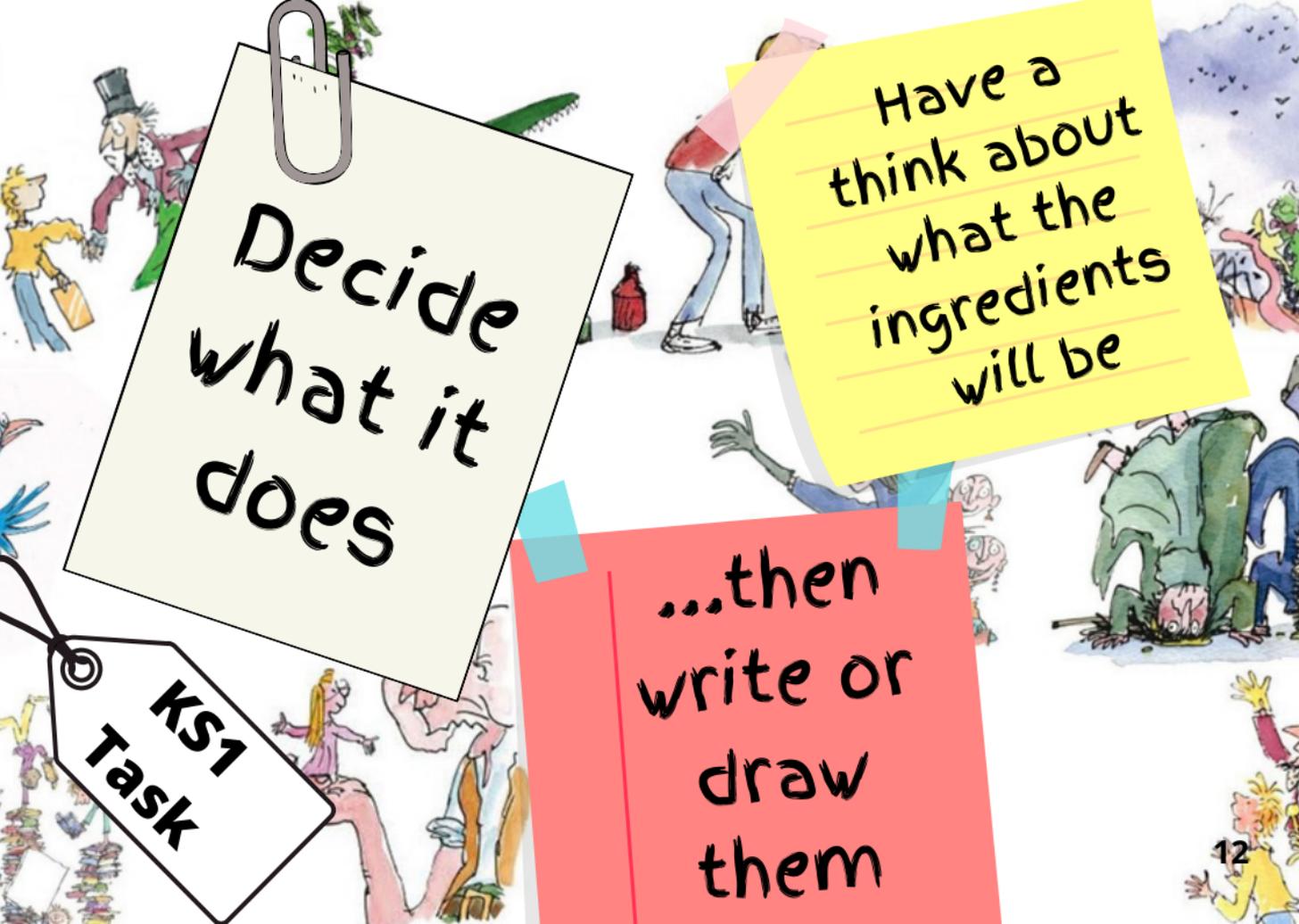
'Here we go, then!' cried George, jumping up from the table. 'A magic medicine it shall be!'

# GEORGE'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE

'So give me a bug and a jumping flea,  
Give me two snails and lizards three,  
And a slimy squiggler from the sea,  
And the poisonous sting of a bumblebee,  
And the juice from the fruit of the ju-jube tree,  
And the powdered bone of a wombat's knee.  
And one hundred other things as well  
Each with a rather nasty smell.  
I'll stir them up, I'll boil them long,  
A mixture tough, a mixture strong.  
And then, heigh-ho, and down it goes,  
A nice big spoonful (hold your nose)  
Just gulp it down and have no fear.  
"How do you like it, Granny dear?"



# CREATE YOUR OWN MEDICINE



Decide  
what it  
does

Have a  
think about  
what the  
ingredients  
will be

...then  
write or  
draw  
them

KS1  
Task



Decide  
what it  
does

Have a  
think about  
what the  
ingredients  
will be

...then  
write  
them in  
a list

KS2  
Task



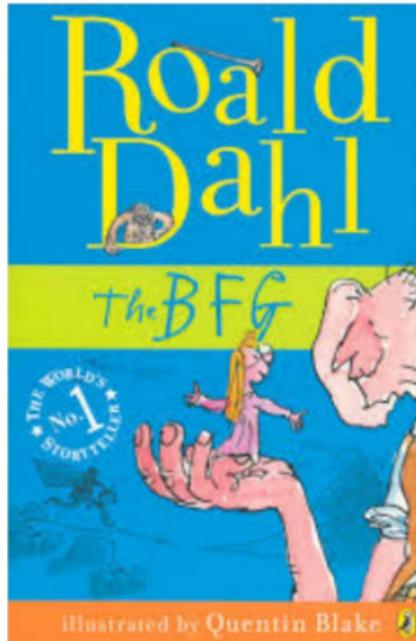
Are there any  
special  
instructions?

**KS2  
Task**

Give it a  
name and  
create a  
label



# THE BFG



# THE BFG

The moonbeam was brighter than ever on Sophie's pillow. She decided to get out of bed and close the gap in the curtains. You got punished if you were caught out of bed after lights-out. Even if you said you had to go to the lavatory, that was not accepted as an excuse and they punished you just the same. But there was no one about now, Sophie was sure of that. She reached out for her glasses that lay on the chair beside her bed. They had steel rims and very thick lenses, and she could hardly see a thing without them. She put them on, then she slipped out of bed and tiptoed over to the window. When she reached the curtains, Sophie hesitated. She longed to duck underneath them and lean out of the window to see what the world looked like now that the witching hour was at hand. She listened again. Everywhere it was deathly still.

# THE BFG

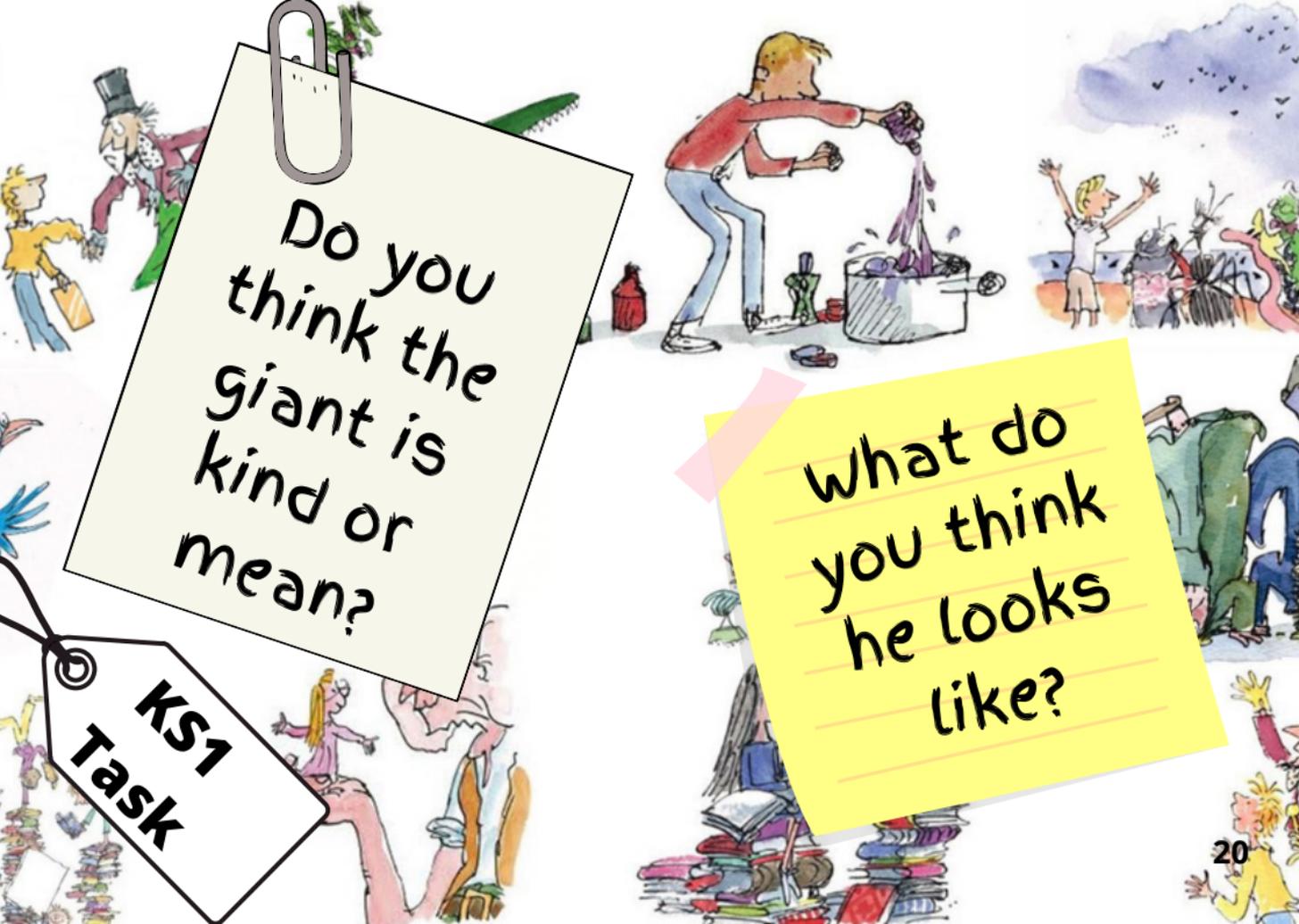
The longing to look out became so strong she couldn't resist it. Quickly, she ducked under the curtains and leaned out of the window. In the silvery moonlight, the village street she knew so well seemed completely different. The houses looked bent and crooked, like houses in a fairy tale.

Everything was pale and ghostly and milky-white. Across the road, she could see Mrs Rance's shop, where you bought buttons and wool and bits of elastic. It didn't look real. There was something dim and misty about that too. Sophie allowed her eye to travel further and further down the street. Suddenly she froze. There was something coming up the street on the opposite side. It was something black . . . Something tall and black . . .

Something very tall and very black and very thin.

A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a busy fairground. In the top left, a man in a top hat and a young boy are walking. A large green dinosaur is in the center. A man in a red shirt is in the top right. The background is filled with various people, including a man in a blue suit flying, a man in a blue suit with arms raised, a man in a green suit with a large nose, and a man in a yellow shirt. There are also stacks of books at the bottom and a large hand holding a gift. The title "BECOME THE GIANT" is written in large, bold, light blue letters with a white outline, centered over the scene.

# BECOME THE GIANT



Do you think the giant is kind or mean?

What do you think he looks like?

KS1  
Task



Use your  
body to  
create  
the giant



**KS1  
Task**



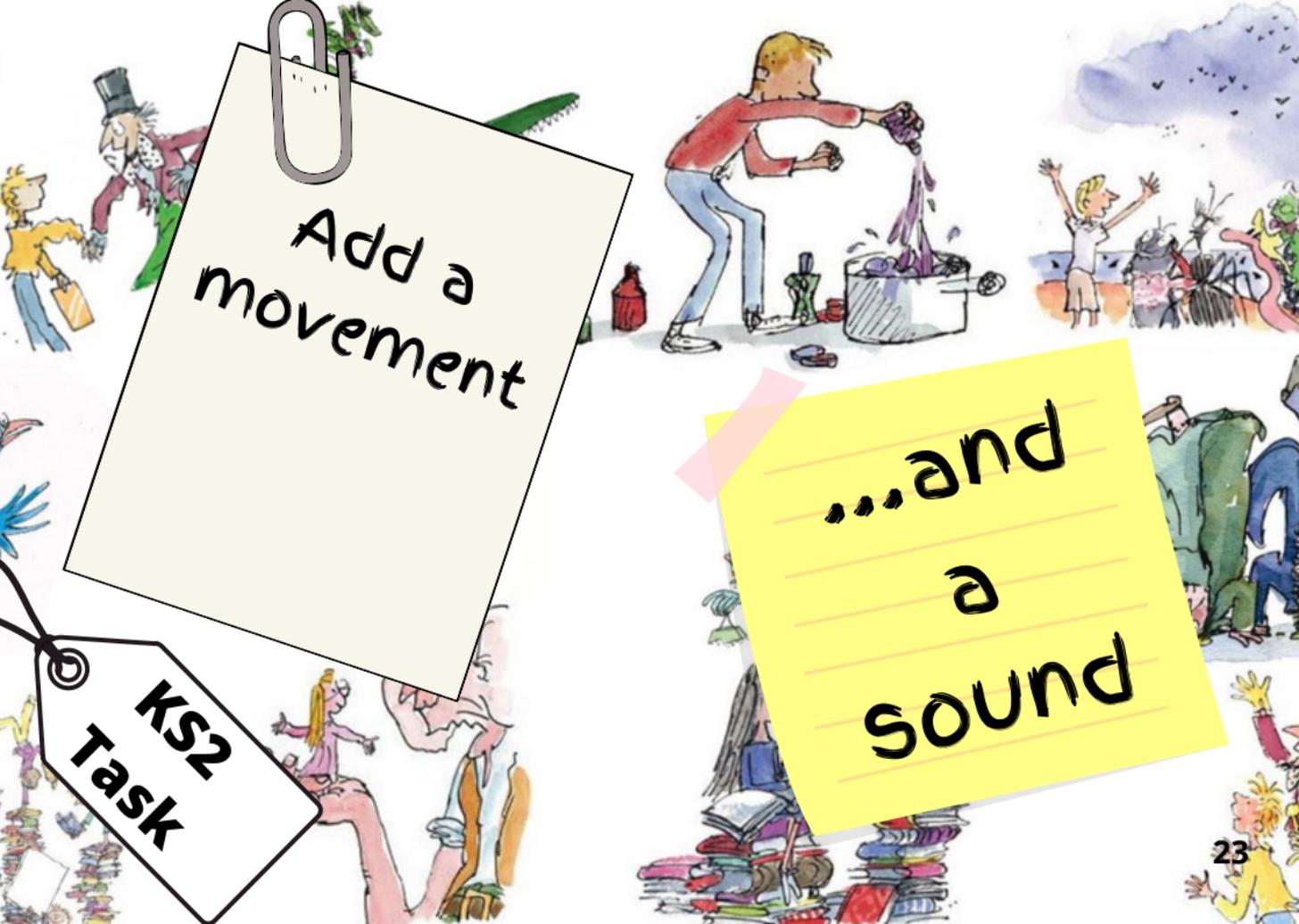


What do  
you think  
he looks  
like?

Use your  
body to  
create  
the giant

...what kind  
of  
personality  
does he  
have?

KS2  
Task



Add a  
movement

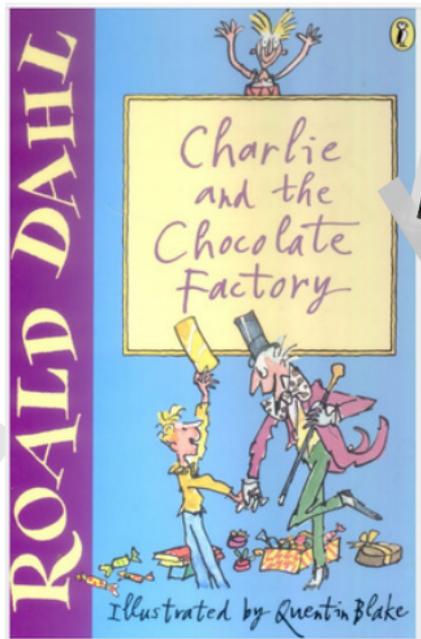
KS2  
Task

...and  
a  
sound



# CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

# CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY



# CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

One evening, when Charlie went in to see his grandparents, he said to them, 'Is it really true that Wonka's Chocolate Factory is the biggest in the world?' 'True?' cried all four of them at once. 'Of course it's true! Good heavens, didn't you know that? It's about fifty times as big as any other!' 'And is Mr Willy Wonka really the cleverest chocolate maker in the world?' 'My dear boy,' said Grandpa Joe, raising himself up a little higher on his pillow, 'Mr Willy Wonka is the most amazing, the most fantastic, the most extraordinary chocolate maker the world has ever seen! I thought everybody knew that!'

# CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

'I knew he was famous, Grandpa Joe, and I knew he was very clever ...'  
'Clever!' cried the old man. 'He's more than that! He's a magician with chocolate! He can make anything – anything he wants! Isn't that a fact, my dears?' The other three old people nodded their heads slowly up and down, and said, 'Absolutely true. Just as true as can be.' And Grandpa Joe said, 'You mean to say I've never told you about Mr Willy Wonka and his factory?' 'Never,' answered little Charlie. 'Good heavens above! I don't know what's the matter with me!' 'Will you tell me now, Grandpa Joe, please?' 'I certainly will. Sit down beside me on the bed, my dear, and listen carefully.'



# INVENT YOUR OWN SWEET TREAT



Decide  
what your  
sweet  
treat is  
made of

KS1  
Task

Give  
it a  
name

Say how  
it  
tastes

...put it  
all  
together  
and  
practise

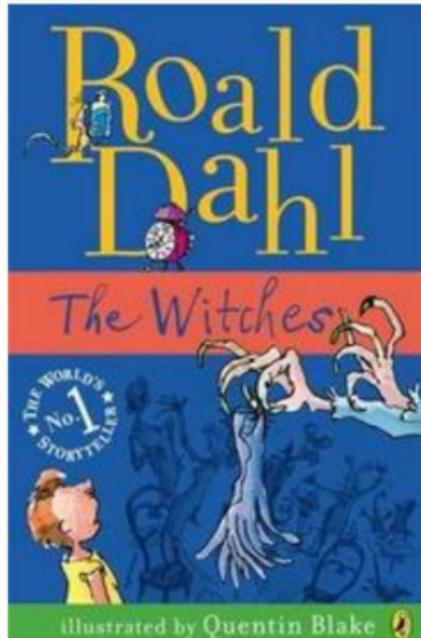
Add an  
action

© KS1  
Task

# THE WITCHES



# THE WITCHES



# THE WITCHES

The very next day, in order that we might both try to forget our great sadness, my grandmother started telling me stories. She was a wonderful story-teller and I was enthralled by everything she told me. But I didn't become really excited until she got on to the subject of witches. She was apparently a great expert on these creatures and she made it very clear to me that her witch stories, unlike most of the others, were not imaginary tales. They were all true. They were the gospel truth. They were history. Everything she was telling me about witches had actually happened and I had better believe it. What was worse, what was far, far worse, was that witches were still with us. They were all around us and I had better believe that, too.

# THE WITCHES

'Are you really being truthful, Grandmamma? Really and truly truthful?' 'My darling,' she said, 'you won't last long in this world if you don't know how to spot a witch when you see one.' 'But you told me that witches look like ordinary women, Grandmamma. So how can I spot them?' 'You must listen to me,' my grandmother said. 'You must remember everything I tell you. After that, all you can do is cross your heart and pray to heaven and hope for the best.'



# MAKE A NEWS REPORT



Give your  
News  
Channel  
a name

Decide on  
a headline  
for your  
story

Report on  
where the  
witches were  
seen and what  
they looked  
like

KS2  
Task



Write it all  
down and  
practise!



**KS2  
Task**





Finally,  
create an  
ending

This is Beatrice,  
reporting for  
Library News.  
Back to the  
studio!

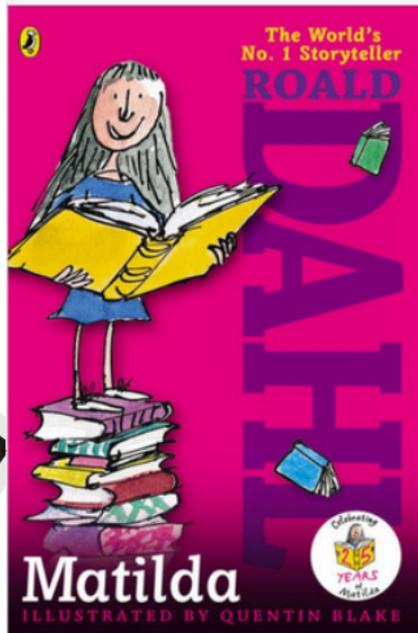
KS2  
Task



# MATILDA



# MATILDA

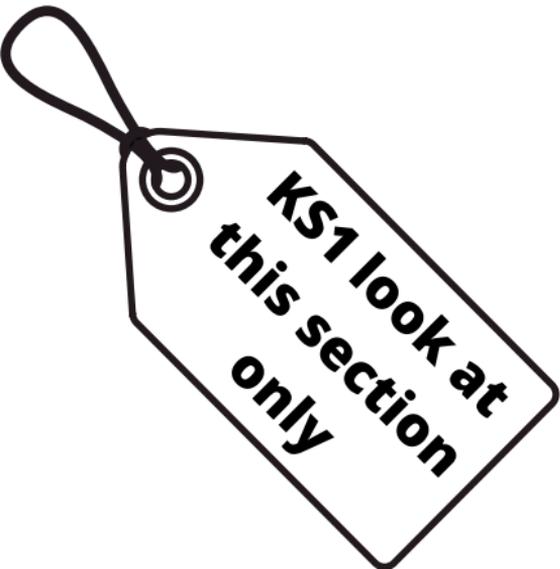


# MATILDA

Their teacher was called Miss Honey, and she could not have been more than twenty-three or twenty-four. She had a lovely pale oval madonna face with blue eyes and her hair was light-brown. Her body was so slim and fragile one got the feeling that if she fell over she would smash into a thousand pieces, like a porcelain figure. Miss Jennifer Honey was a mild and quiet person who never raised her voice and was seldom seen to smile, but there is no doubt she possessed that rare gift for being adored by every small child under her care. She seemed to understand totally the bewilderment and fear that so often overwhelm young children who for the first time in their lives are herded into a classroom and told to obey orders. Some curious warmth that was almost tangible shone out of Miss Honey's face when she spoke to a confused and homesick newcomer to the class.

# MATILDA

Miss Trunchbull, the Headmistress, was something else altogether. She was a gigantic holy terror, a fierce tyrannical monster who frightened the life out of the pupils and teachers alike. There was an aura of menace about her even at a distance, and when she came up close you could almost feel the dangerous heat radiating from her as from a red-hot rod of metal.





# CHARACTER DRAWINGS



Can you  
draw  
Miss  
Trunchbull

KS1 or 2  
Task





...or  
Miss  
Honey

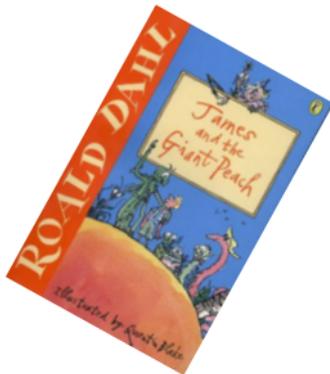
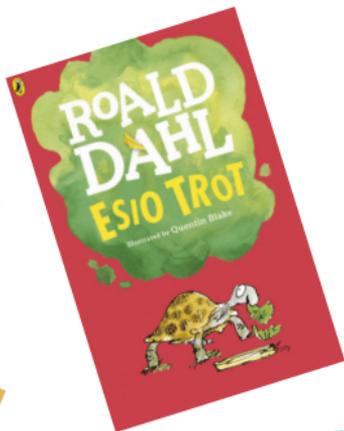
KS2  
Task



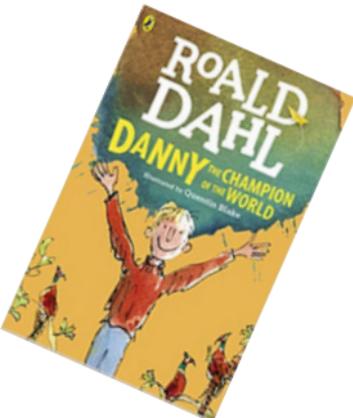
# FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES

# CAN YOU MATCH THE CLUE WITH THE STORY?

Two cruel  
aunts,  
Spiker and  
Sponge



Caravan



Ducks  
holding  
hunting  
guns

Cabbage  
Leaves



# MADE-UP WORDS

Roald Dahl invented over 500 words! Here are a few...

## GLORIUMPTIOUS

Like wondercrump and splendiferous, gloriumptious conveys pure marvelousness by blending together form and meaning from other words. In this case, glorious and scrumptious

## HORRIGUST

Things aren't always gloriumptious in Dahl's stories. Marvelousness has an opposite and there's no better word for it than horrigust, a blend of horrible and disgusting.

## BIFFSQUIGGLED

The dictionary describes it as capturing what it feels like when "your brain is reeling from a punch and is as muddled as a squiggly piece of doodling."

**CAN YOU INVENT YOUR OWN  
WORD AND DESCRIBE WHAT  
IT MEANS?**

**WORD**.....

**MEANING**.....

.....

.....

# WRITE A SCRIPT FOR BEA'S INTERVIEW WITH THE PROFESSOR

Set it out like this example and use this as a start if you like!

## The Interview

A large meeting room in the Grand Library

Professor: Come in Bea. Take a seat

Bea: Oh thank you (trips on chair -leg)

Professor: Can you tell me why you think you would make a good librarian?



# MAKE YOUR MEDICINE RHYME



So give me a bug and a jumping flea,  
Give me two snails and lizards three,  
And a slimy squiggler from the sea,  
And the poisonous sting of a bumblebee,  
And the juice from the fruit of the ju-jube tree,  
And the powdered bone of a wombat's knee.  
And one hundred other things as well  
Each with a rather nasty smell.  
I'll stir them up, I'll boil them long,  
A mixture tough, a mixture strong,  
And then, heigh-ho, and down it goes,  
A nice big spoonful (hold your nose)  
Just gulp it down and have no fear.  
"How do you like it, Granny dear?"



You will notice that the ingredients for George's medicine rhyme!

Can you come up with 4 really weird things that rhyme with each other...?

Write down lots of ideas to see what works best



# FRIENDLY OR FREAKISH?

In the story, The  
Witches,  
Grandmother  
explains how great  
witches are at  
pretending they  
are normal.

Find a mirror and  
practise changing  
your face from  
friendly...to as  
nasty as you can  
possibly be!

# MAGICAL POWERS

Matilda has the magical power of **Telekinesis** - she moves objects and floats them in the air with her eyes!  
Can you invent your own? Give it a name and draw a picture!

**NAME**.....

**THIS MEANS I CAN** .....

.....

.....



# LINKS TO ONLINE QUIZZES

[www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/quiz/2011/sep/13/roald-dahl-quiz](http://www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/quiz/2011/sep/13/roald-dahl-quiz)

QUIZ

[www.roalddahlfans.com/fun-stuff/trivia-quizzes/](http://www.roalddahlfans.com/fun-stuff/trivia-quizzes/)

[www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/quizzes/roald-dahl-how-many-fantastic-facts-do-you-know-about-the-legendary-storyteller-and-his-books/](http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/quizzes/roald-dahl-how-many-fantastic-facts-do-you-know-about-the-legendary-storyteller-and-his-books/)

**WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE  
YOUR WORK**

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