

LEARNING ADVENTURE IDEAS

The Amazing Problem Solving Agency

The school's new Learning Adventure for this term is called 'The Amazing Problem Solving Agency'. During the course of the Learning Adventure, the children will set up a Problem Solving Agency with their class, which will be visited by a range of characters from stories / traditional tales, for example, the mother of the three little pigs could visit the agency, asking for help to prepare her sons to live in safety from the hungry wolf. The children will have the opportunity to engage in a range of problem solving activities, enabling them to consider a range of viewpoints and developing their thinking and communication skills.

If you and your child would like some ideas for possible activities linked to the Learning Adventure, please see the following suggestions. Please feel free to adapt the ideas to the age of your child or to develop your own exciting activities. Any extra home learning completed by your child will always be welcomed by their class teacher. Remember that children in Years 1-4, will also be asked to refer to this sheet for at least one of their home learning activities this half term. We hope you enjoy exploring 'The Amazing Problem Solving Agency'!

Learning Adventure Ideas:

Can you create your own problem solving agency at home? Consider the following aspects:

- Where will you establish your headquarters? (a desk in your bedroom for instance) What things will you need?
- What will you call your agency? (think of a catchy name and possibly a slogan)
- Can you create a membership / ID card for your agency?
- Can you advertise your agency by creating a poster? The poster should identify the types of problems you are good at solving.

Once you have created your problem solving agency, ask the people in your family whether they have any mysterious problems they would like you to solve – perhaps something has gone missing or possibly there are some clues of an unusual visitor. Use a notebook to write down any clues that you find. Feedback your findings to your family members. How many problems can you solve?

Exploring Stories / Traditional Tales

Many of the visitors to the problem solving agency will be characters from stories / traditional tales. You could complete the following tasks:

- Look at your collection of books at home or take a trip to the library. Investigate the range of books that you find. How many traditional tales can you list? How many books by a particular author are there? Talk about your favourite stories with a family member. Consider writing a review of your favourite story or drawing a picture of your favourite part.
- Think of a favourite story and consider how you can tell this story to your family. Can you become a storyteller? Memorise the key parts, remembering to tell the story with expression and considering whether you will need any props.
- You could create a play script of a favourite story / traditional tale and act out the story with your family. Consider filming your finished version to share in school.
- Create your own book of a favourite story / traditional tale. Plan your story first, thinking about the key stages. How many pages will your book have? Design the illustrations for your book - you could look at a range of illustrators to get some ideas. Remember to include an eye-catching front cover!
- Use ICT to create a stop frame animation of your favourite story / traditional tale. Bring your finished animation into school to share with your class.
- How else could you represent your favourite story / traditional tale? You could create a cartoon strip, a puppet show, a piece of art work or even a model.
- Which story characters could come and visit your problem solving agency? What is their problem and how many different ways can you think of to solve their problem?
- Rewrite a story / traditional tale, thinking about how you would solve the main problem in a different way, for example, how else could the Three Billy Goats Gruff have got across the river? What result would this have had?
- Consider a story / traditional tale from the perspective of a 'bad character', for instance, the Big Bad Wolf from The Three Little Pigs. Consider writing an interview with this character – what questions would you ask him and how do you think he would respond? Consider whether the 'bad characters' are really bad, for example, is the Big Bad Wolf just hungry? Is he upset that everybody wants to capture him? Alternatively, you could rewrite the story from the point of view of your chosen 'bad character' or they could write a letter to the other characters, apologising and explaining their point of view.

OR

Can you think of your own exciting activity linked to our 'Amazing Problem Solving Agency' Learning Adventure?