

# World Book Day

First Thursday in March

## 1. As the pupils enter

Have the [webpage open](#). Play your chosen music and display the image of children reading.

## 2. Introduction

Ask the children to name some of their favourite stories and to suggest why they like them. Ask them to describe what they have done to celebrate previous World Book Days.

Explain that World Book Day is an opportunity for everyone to have fun celebrating favourite books and stories. While they watch the video, ask them to think about the benefits of reading and books.

## 3. Play the video

Duration: 4' 08". Final words: '...be reading this World Book Day?'

## 4. Time to talk

Lead a discussion about books and reading by asking:

- *How would you describe the purpose of World Book Day? What's it for?* (To bring people together to celebrate a love of books and reading.)
- *The printing press was invented about 600 years ago. What difference do you think it made to how people can enjoy books?* (Books could be made much more quickly and easily - so they became cheaper, more popular and a greater variety was produced.)
- *How would you describe the benefits of reading books?* (The children will have their own ideas, but the video refers to increasing vocabulary, helping with imagination and empathy, helping us to relax.)
- *Why do you think dressing up as a character on World Book Day helps us appreciate books more?* (General ideas including: it brings the stories to life, makes it fun, inspires other people to read new things.)

Finally invite the children to: *Turn to the person next to you and ask them what their favourite book is, and why.*



Webpage with video

## 5. Opportunity to sing

An opportunity to sing your chosen song. Suggestions on the webpage.

## 6. Opportunity to reflect

*Sit quietly and think about what it might have been like in the past when books were rare, and children couldn't read them for fun or as part of their education...*

*We are lucky today to have so many different types of books to suit everyone's interests and abilities, and on World Book Day we can take time to appreciate the wonderful, imaginary worlds that books transport us to...*

*Think about the stories that you like...and how you might share your feelings about those stories with someone else...*

## 7. Opportunity for prayer

Begin with your usual form of address (Dear God, Dear Lord, Let us pray, etc) and:

*Thank you for World Book Day, and the opportunity to read and share our favourite stories all year round. Help us to appreciate the many benefits that reading books can bring, and share our love of books with everyone else. Amen.*