**Jackanory Competition!**

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In the coming weeks, you will be creating your very own **Jackanory**video, for our **Jackanory Competition.**

**Jackanory**is a BBC children's programme, where an actor tells a story to the audience. They use voice, body language, gesture and facial expression to bring the story to life to engage the viewer. There are other *visual*elements to the programme, such as set, props and imagery.  Some of the imagery is animation, but you won't need to use that in your own version. There are other *aural (sound)*elements to the programme too, such as sound effects and music.

1. Watch some of this Jackanory clip about The Snow Dragon and analyse how the performance, visuals and sound all combine to enhance the storytelling.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p011lb5t>

Who is my target audience?

Your Jackanory must be targeted towards the children in younger years who will be watching some of your films.

How long should it be?

The maximum duration is 10 minutes - Remember this when choosing your book. But it can be shorter than 10 minutes too.

How will my Jackanory programme be seen?

You will send your film to your Drama teacher on One Drive and it could be put onto the school’s virtual learning environment for younger years to enjoy.

What makes a successful Jackanory competition entry?

In a successful Jackanory programme the storyteller will:

* Speak accurately
* Emphasise key words to communicate meaning
* Use vocal skills to engage the listener
* Speak with audibility
* Speak with clarity of diction
* Demonstrate vocal contrast between moods, narrative and dialogue
* Use eye contact to engage the audience
* Use body language to complement vocal performance
* Use posture and gesture appropriate to the story
* Use facial expression to reflect inner feeling
* Use mise-en-scene and imagery to enhance to the storytelling (mise-en-scene is a term used to describe the visually artful way you can tell your story - more on this later!)
* Use sound effects and music to enhance the storytelling, if appropriate.

Which books suit 5-7 year olds?

You may already have a favourite in mind from when you were younger. Books such as, Room on the Broom or What A Mess! are the sort of length and level you could aim for. The list below are bestsellers for that age group.  The list could go on and on, so do some of your own research to avoid doing the same story as someone else. We don't want twenty Tiddlers!

* The Detective Dog by Julia Donaldson and Sara Ogilvie
* The Squirrels Who Squabbled by Rachel Bright
* Rabbit and Bear by Julian Gough and Jim Field
* Kitchen Disco by Clare Foges, illustrated by Al Murphy
* Lift the flap: Fairy Tales by Roger Priddy
* Snow by Walter de la Mare, illustrated by Carolina Rabei
* Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World by Kate Pankhurs
* Thumbelina by Xanthe Gresham, illustrated by Charlotte Gastaut
* Yours Sincerely, Giraffe by Megumi Iwasa, illustrated by Jun Takabatake
* Dave Pigeon by Swapna Haddow, illustrated by Sheena Dempsey
* Princess Smartypants and the Missing Princes by Babette Cole

What are the prize categories? Possible categories could include:

* Most entertaining!
* Creative Genius!
* Visual Excellence!
* Aural Excellence!
* Something Special!
* Pupils Choice - as voted by the Preps!

There could be one winner per category from each form.

What's the deadline?

Where do I start?

Below is the list of tasks to help you to create your Jackanory. You can work through the tasks at your own pace.

**You must inform your teacher of the Task number have reached by the end of each Drama lesson on Google Meeting on platform of your school’s choice. Your teacher could be available to answer any questions you have during your lesson time.**

Tasks:

1. **Choose your book** and **time it** by reading it aloud to ensure it's no longer than 10 minutes duration.
2. **Read the book** aloud twice more to really familiarise yourself with it.
3. **Make a list** of the different characters who speak in the story.
4. **Create unique voices for each character**. For example, in Goldilocks, Mummy Bear might have a mid-range Dorset accent, whereas Goldilocks might speak in a higher pitched standard English accent.
5. Read the story aloud again, this time using the character voices.
6. Now, think about how the character is feeling on each of their lines. **Try saying their dialogue**with vocal expression that conveys their mood in that moment. For example, Baby Bear could be sad on "and they've broken it!"
7. Now, think about how you could convey each character through body language, posture, gesture and facial expression. For example, Daddy Bear could stand with his hands on his hips with a proud stance, whereas Baby Bear could hold his paws in front of him with a wide-eyed expression. **Rehearse using these performance features.**
8. Now, turn your attention to the narration. The narration is any of the story that is not dialogue. You could narrate the story as yourself. **Rehearse speaking the dialogue out loud using the following:**

* Regular eye contact with the audience (camera)
* Tone of voice to convey the **mood** of each line, and the **atmosphere**of the story
* Emphasis to point the correct **meaning**to the audience
* Varied **pace**to suggest the tempo of the unfolding action. If there is excitement, pick up the pace, if there is calm, then slow down your delivery. Don't be afraid to use **pauses**to create suspense
* Occasional natural **gestures**that suit the action. For example, if the narration states, 'Baby Bear picked up a spoon' then you, as narrator, could mime picking up a spoon.

9. Now, put all of the elements of voice, body language, posture, gesture and facial expression together and**rehearse the whole story out loud**. Remember to use regular eye contact to engage your audience.

10. Now, consider other ***visual***elements of your programme - the mise-en-scene (the arrangement of the scenery, props) and imagery. Consider the following:

* **Locations**- what could you use as your backdrop/setting? For example, would the story be best told from a garden or from inside a tent? Only use what you have around you. We discourage you from buying anything for the purposes of this project.

**Be mindful that your Jackanory could be seen by others online so only film yourself in places your parents/guardians are happy for you to. Check with them first.**

* **Props**- would it help enhance the storytelling if you used a prop? For example, the three bowls in Goldilocks. Rehearse with them.
* **Images**- what images could you edit into your film to enhance the storytelling. For example, would a picture of a house in a wood help to bring the location to life? **Find suitable images** ready for your final edit.

11. Now, consider other ***aural***elements of your programme - how could you use sound, as well as the voice and ambient noise (any sound from the environment you are in, such as birdsong if you in your garden), to enhance your storytelling? Would**sound effects and moments of music**be beneficial? Find some sound effects and music and **rehearse**with them.

Please note, that **too many** visual and aural elements can **distract** from the story. Only keep elements that **serve the story**.

12. **Re-read** the Success Criteria.

13. **Film**the final version of your Jackanory.

14. **Edit**the sound and visuals.

15. **Save**the file, **labelling**it as follows 'Pupil first name and surname/Year and Form/Title of Book', so your file name should look like this 'EmmaStone/Year 6A/Goldilocks'.

16. **Send**it to your **Drama teacher** using **One Drive**. You may need to **download the One Drive App** to share the film. Then **upload the file to your One Drive**once its ready. Then **click on the three dots icon**to the right of the filename (in OneDrive) and **select ‘share’.** You could then **enter your teacher's email address**, which will **send them a link** to access the file.

We hope you enjoy making your **Jackanory**!