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Reading Charity

# Best Bears Ever

## Celebrating 100 Years of Winnie-the-Pooh

### INSPIRATION PACK

#### What is an Inspiration Pack?

Each Rocket Pack is accompanied by an Inspiration Pack. This is a themed PDF resource linked to the books in the term's Rocket Pack and is designed to help schools embed a culture of reading for pleasure.

This Inspiration Pack includes:

- Two whole-school assembly plans
- A whole-class reading activity, with supporting resources
- A whole-school reading challenge

It offers practical ideas, guidance and ready-to-use materials to help staff make the most of the Rocket Pack and engage pupils in reading in a meaningful and enjoyable way.

#### How can I use them?

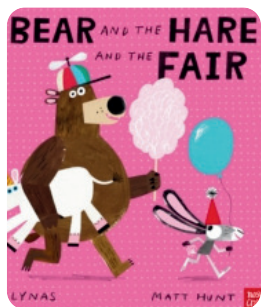
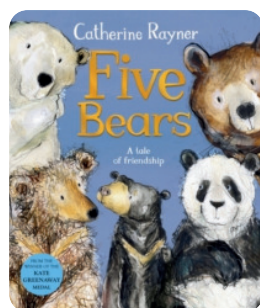
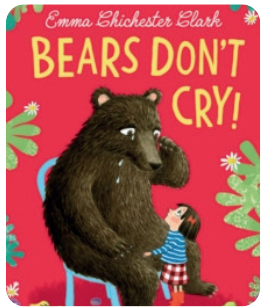
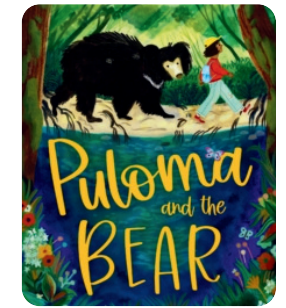
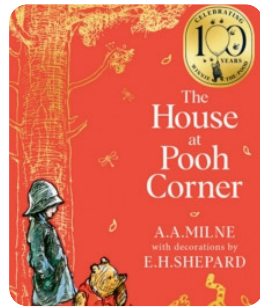
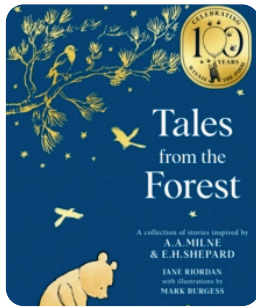
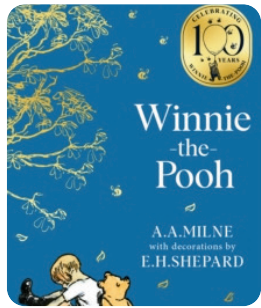
We recommend using the Inspiration Pack over the course of half a term.

Once the Rocket Pack has arrived in school, staff can follow the activities in sequence.

Each pack includes clear instructions and teacher notes to support delivery, making it straightforward for staff to implement engaging, high-quality reading experiences across the school.



# Your New Books!



# Hook Assembly Plan

## Objectives

- To introduce pupils to the key themes of this Rocket Pack
- To inspire curiosity and excitement about reading for pleasure
- To expose pupils to a range of texts

## Preparation and resources

- A selection of the Rocket Pack books
- A soft toy bear (or similar prop)
- Slides or images of different bears (fictional and real)
- Optional: short, pre-selected excerpts to read aloud
- Assembly space with projector

## Introduction

Bring out a teddy bear and ask:

- “Who thinks this is just an ordinary teddy?”
- “What if I told you this bear has been on lots of adventures?”

Explain that bears are some of the most loved characters in stories.

Discussion prompts:

- “Where have you seen bears before?”
- “Can anyone name a famous bear?”

Reveal examples of famous fictional bears (Paddington, Winnie-the-Pooh, Rupert Bear, Baloo, Yogi Bear...)

## Main focus

- Introduce a variety of books from the Rocket Pack, briefly showing covers and giving a short introduction for each: bears can be funny, brave, kind, worried - just like us.
- “Why do you think authors choose bears to tell these stories?” Guide pupils towards ideas of comfort, strength and relatability.

## End

Introduce the upcoming activities:

- Whole-school reading challenge
- Class activities
- Story exploration

Final reflection question:

- “Which bear story would you most like to discover, and why?”

End with a short, engaging read-aloud from a chosen Rocket Pack text.

## Notes For teachers

- Use expressive storytelling to engage pupils
- Encourage older pupils to think more deeply about themes (e.g. environment)
- Allow time for pupil voice and contributions
- This assembly works best as a launch event, followed by class-based exploration using the Inspiration Pack

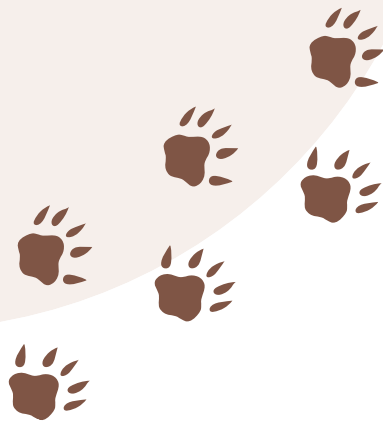


# Whole-Class Reading Activity

## What is the challenge?

All the bears from our Rocket Pack books have got lost in the forest!

We need to help find them... but we can only unlock clues by reading their stories!



## How will this work?

Step 1: Read an extract from one of your books

Step 2: After reading, give a quick challenge linked to the story:

Examples:

- In groups, act a scene
- Quick quiz: Who? Where? Why?
- One child becomes the bear in the hot seat
- Sketch a key moment in 2 mins

If the class completes it they “rescue” that bear!

Step 3: Add the bear to a “Rescued Bears” display board

- Include the book title and a simple class comment

Repeat across the week with a new book, challenge and activity!

## Ending the activity

Hold a “Bear Celebration” session

- Children vote for favourite bear
- Re-read favourite part
- Draw or write about it



# Whole-School Reading Challenge

## INSTRUCTIONS



### The task:

Children read books from this Rocket Pack and earn rewards for reading, sharing and enjoying the books

### Aims:

- Build positive reading habits and enjoyment
- Expose pupils to a range of high-quality texts
- Encourage reading talk and book recommendations
- Develop empathy and emotional literacy through themes (friendship, worry, courage, kindness)

### Main activity

- Create a whole-school “Honey Tree” display - this could be in your assembly hall, or a digital presentation that gets updated and circulated around classes during registrations
- Each book read by a pupil = add a leaf
- Aim: fill the tree by the end of the term!

You could give each class or year group a different leaf pattern to track where your most engaged readers are in the school



### Differentiation:

Teachers can reward leaves to pupils for reading, listening or talking about the books - celebrate any engagement with reading for pleasure!

### Independent activity

After reading a bear story, design your very own bear character.

- Think about your bear
- What is your bear’s name?
- What kind of bear are they?
- Draw your bear and add details
- Write a short description



# Reading Celebration (End of Block) Assembly Plan

## Objectives

- Celebrate reading for pleasure across the school
- Recognise participation in the Honey Tree challenge
- Motivate children to continue reading
- Build excitement around books and storytelling

## Preparation and Resources

- Honey Tree display (or presentation)
- Certificates or rewards

## Introduction

### Wrap up the term's Rocket Pack theme by informing the children of the following:

- Over this term, we've explored brilliant books all about bears - funny, kind, adventurous and sometimes a little bit mischievous!
- We set ourselves a big challenge to fill our Honey Tree with reading leaves

## Reward Reveal

- The whole school has earned a reward for their participation in this reading challenge
- Each class can choose from:
  - A reading picnic
  - Listen to a story with snacks
  - Cosy reading session
  - or... come up with your own reading treat!

## End

This assembly is designed to celebrate whole-school reading for pleasure! You can also use the assembly to share other reading achievements from this term, from each class or individual pupils.

### Your feedback matters!

Tell us what you think of the Inspiration Pack!

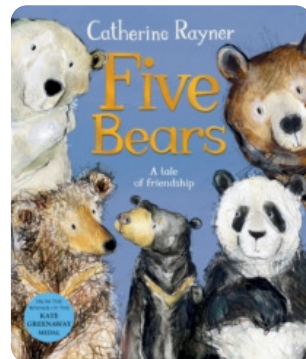
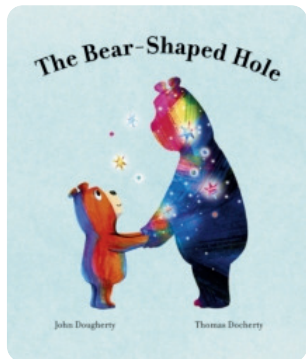
Scan me!



# Digital Resources

A number of the books in your pack are accompanied by some fantastic free resources made available for schools by the publishers and authors.

There are guided teaching notes, activity sheets plus some videos of author readings, all of which will hopefully add to the experience of reading these new books and inspire lots of excited book chat!



## Want more books?

If you'd like to purchase any additional books:

- Contact [Browns Books](#)
- Let them know you are a Bookmark School
- Order any books you'd like!
- Bookmark schools can receive up to 40% discount on orders



# Celebrate 100 Years of W I N N I E - T H E - P O O H

Colour  
me in!



Celebrate 100 Years of  
**W I N N I E - T H E - P O O H**

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