

Y9 Children's Stories -Writing - Knowledge Organiser

Why children's writing?

This unit explores the genre of children's writing. Specifically, we will be looking at picture books written for young children. These books are more complex than they first appear and a lot of careful thought and planning has to go into their creation. Particularly, writers have to pay close attention to their language choices because they have a limited number of words. We want you to become writers who can craft language and so writing in this way will help you create that awareness.

The Big Idea!

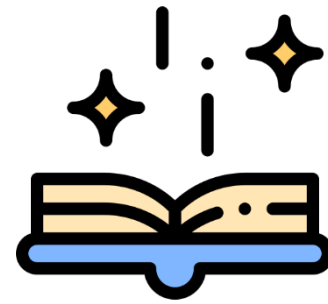
"All children, except one, grow up." – J.M Barrie

Sir James Matthew Barrie (9 May 1860 – 19 June 1937) was a Scottish novelist and playwright, best remembered as the creator of Peter Pan. He was born and educated in Scotland and then moved to London, where he wrote a number of successful novels and plays. There he met the Llewelyn Davies boys, who inspired him to write - *Peter Pan* - a "fairy play" about an ageless boy and an ordinary girl named Wendy who have adventures in the fantasy setting of Neverland.

Barrie unofficially adopted the Davies boys following the deaths of their parents. Before his death, he gave the rights to the Peter Pan works to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London, which continues to benefit from them.

Discuss: How do you think the big idea applies to this unit?

Key Concepts



magic of stories

morals



playfulness
of language

crafting language



Conventions of children's writing:

| Convention | Definition |
|---------------|---|
| Morals | Ideals surrounding what is considered <i>good</i> and what is considered <i>evil</i> or <i>bad</i> . |
| Fun | Children's books should be fun and playful! Particularly the language – often using neologisms (new words). |
| Character | Characters are not complicated – they can often be described in two words! More and more, children's books are changing to represent the diverse world around us. |
| Narrative | Children's books are very much driven by narratives which often draw on stories that have gone before them. |
| Illustrations | These are a key part of children's stories and help young children to understand the story. |

Key texts for this unit:

