



Presents



Education Pack

Written by **Caroline Herlihy**
with Thanks to **The Betty Riseley Trust**
Illustrations by **Rose Forshall**



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



**GUILDFORD
BOROUGH**



**The Betty
Riseley Trust**





Introduction

Dear Teachers,

Welcome to the Education Pack for 'The Big ENORMOUS Present'. The pack is divided up into different Curriculum Areas. The suggested activities are appropriate for EYFS to end of KS1 pupils (and can be extended to lower KS2). They provide contexts for learning which can be adapted to suit the learning stages of different ages of pupils. A separate early years pack is also available to download from www.piedpipertheatre.co.uk.

As Jack says at the beginning of the play; this is a story about making friends. To help teachers to develop ideas about friendship, there are some excellent materials available online called SEAL – Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning. They were produced by the government and are now in the archives but are definitely worth seeking out. The easiest way is to put Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning into your search engine. There are ideas for activities for all primary aged children.

The BBC Bitesize website also has a wide range of videos that can be used to promote discussion in KS1 and KS2 – look under PSHE & Citizenship-Relationships-Friendship.

The activities which follow should be seen as open ended – allowing children to take their learning and play in new directions as they respond to the stimuli of the story.

I hope that this pack provides a useful jumping off point.

Caroline Herlihy





Contents:

PSHE	3
English	5
Maths	8
Science	10
Art & Design	12
History	14
Geography	15





PSHE

It is worth thinking about the vocabulary used to describe friendship so that children really have a good understanding of the important aspects of friendship and relationships.

Why not organise it as a game?

Write some key words on cards and give them out to small groups of 2–4 children. For instance: loyal, trustworthy, honest, responsible, concerned etc. The group has to develop a definition of the word and share it with the rest of the class. You could then display the words, with their definitions.

Just working in groups is a great opportunity for the children to think about how well they listen to one another, share ideas and help each other (all important aspects of friendship!).

Speaking and Listening - leading to Writing

Start with a discussion of the important qualities of a good friend – kindness, listening, sharing etc. (You could use the context of Circle Time to do this, each child takes it in turn to give an idea).

Next split the children into groups. Each group draws around one child, laying on a large piece of paper. Cut out the child shape. Give each member of the group a different coloured felt tip pen to write in their ideas of what makes a good friend. These child shapes can then be displayed.

Write a Recipe for Friendship

Discuss and model how a recipe is written. Think about ingredients needed for friendship. Make a list. Encourage children to use appropriate quantities, e.g. a large helping of laughter, a pinch of caution...

For the method, children could discuss how a friendship is formed e.g. go into the playground and find a person to mix up all the ingredients together.

To extend the activity into English why not write out and display the recipes?





'Friend Wanted'

Make a Wanted Poster or Advertisement for a Friend.

Discuss and model all the important qualities needed to be a good friend. Design an appealing poster or think about persuasive language that would encourage a good response to the poster or advertisement.

(Activity extends into English and Art and Design)

Dilemmas Game

Make up packs of cards cut out from the grid below and or add some dilemma ideas of your own – or include something that has happened recently in school.

<p>Your friend wants to play a game but is upset because you just want to read a book. What should you do/say?</p>	<p>Your Mum says you must invite someone to your party. But you don't like them. What should you do?</p>	<p>There is a new child in school. Your friend wants to go and play with them. You feel jealous. What can you do?</p>
<p>You find £1 in the playground. Your friend says you should keep it and buy some sweets. What will you do?</p>	<p>Two of your friends ask you to join them in making fun of another child. What should you do?</p>	<p>You think your friend has taken your special pen. You feel very angry. What should you do?</p>

Put the children into groups and give them two or three cards per group. The group must discuss the dilemma and agree the actions/outcomes and be able to explain their decisions to the rest of the class.





English

Writing

It's a Gift

Reception class children can have fun creating labels for presents.

Give children some pictures of people from magazines or favourite book characters, or even characters from The Big ENORMOUS Present.

The children have to describe the character and then...

With pictures from catalogues (e.g Argos, or print outs of selected gifts, they have to choose a gift for their character and explain why it would be a good present for her/him.

This idea can be developed with older children – encouraging them to use descriptive vocabulary, by matching characters with gifts.





Story in a Box

Collect enough empty boxes from a supermarket (boxes for 6 bottles of wine are a good size!) for small groups to each have their own box.

Put a few objects into each box – about 4-6 – and wrap up the box to look like a present.

The children unwrap 'the present' and use the objects inside to create a story – they have to try and include all the objects, if they can.

The children make up a story in a group and present it to the rest of the class, act it out, or they could just use the objects to write their own stories.

Possible objects could be – a torch, a map, an apple, a toy boat, car, aeroplane; anything that you have easily at hand in the classroom.





Writing a Letter

Ask the children to think about how Polly communicated with her Dad when he was away; text, phone calls, email, Face Time. What about writing letters?

This is a good opportunity to introduce older children into the genre of letter writing – modelling how to set out a letter, the conventions of the language (different to texts...no emojiis!).

Polly might well use the special service for sending letters to members of the armed forces. You can find out more about it here:

<https://www.postoffice.co.uk/mail/hm-forces-mail>

This is also a chance to talk about addressing letters, and peoples' titles – as the information needed on an armed forces letter is very specific: recipient's name, number and rank, sub-unit, unit and BFPO number.

The children could practise their new skills by writing letters to people in their school who help them, e.g. lunchtime supervisors, caretaker, cleaners, the lollypop person – to thank them for helping in school.





Maths

Shape and Measurement

3D boxes, the shapes of wrapped presents, are a great source for mathematical investigation for older Key Stage 1 children:

Measuring

Provide a range of boxes for children to order into size – smallest to largest.

Try and provide a varied range of dimensions of cube/cuboid boxes so that children have to justify their reasoning.

Is the tallest box larger than the shortest box (which may be very wide)?

This will encourage children to develop a wide range of mathematical vocabulary and apply it accurately.

Reception age children can further develop this activity: how can the children prove which box is the largest? In the initial stages children may be happy to justify the largest as being the tallest but it opens up the opportunity to investigate volume– which has the largest capacity?

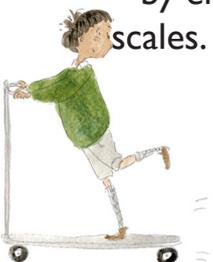
How could the children work this out?

Mass - weighing parcels

Provide the children with a selection of parcels – any boxes or objects that are wrapped up in different coloured paper (to help with recording). Try to include a very large box that is light and a small heavy box.

Ask the children to try and order the mass of the parcels, just by looking at them and record their estimates and ask them to justify their thoughts.

The children can then either work out the correct order – heaviest to lightest – by either comparing on a beam balance, using nonstandard weights or using scales.





Making Nets

Give children a selection of boxes (e.g. cereal packets) to deconstruct from a 3D to a 2D shape – ask them to work out how many faces their cube or cuboid shape has. Can then they construct a 3D cube or cuboid? They could start by using shape equipment such as Clix – and then have a go at drawing out the net for their cube or cuboid on squared paper, cutting it out and putting it together.

Measuring Length

Provide sheets of newspaper and empty boxes. Ask the children to measure the faces of the boxes. Using these measurements cut out the newspaper to fit each face of the box.

Money

Buying Presents

You can adapt this activity for different stages of development by limiting the choice of gifts and the denomination and amounts of money to be used.

Provide the children with gift catalogues (you may need to adjust the prices or just print out single sheets showing gifts and add appropriate price tags). Each child has a set amount of money. The challenge is to buy a gift and work out...

- Which coins they would use to pay for the gift?
- How much change they would have?
- Buying more than one gift, find out the total. How much change they would have?





Science

Wrapping a Parcel

There is a good opportunity to link The Big ENORMOUS Present to investigating materials.

Which material would best for wrapping a parcel?

(You could print out and use the worksheet overleaf to help you with this activity.)

Children have to say who they think is right – and why....

Encourage them to think about the qualities of the material needed

It might need to be:

- Waterproof
- Strong
- Flexible
- Easy to stick together

Will it protect the parcel?
Have they considered cost?

With teacher support, children have to formulate a fair test for the different materials, think of a way of recording the results, and analyse the results.

Which material is best and why?
Is the result different to their prediction?
Ask the children to explain why it is different.





Worksheet - Wrapping a Parcel



Mrs Dix



Polly



Mr Carter



Jack



Dot





Art & Design

Print Wrapping Paper

The printing media could be potato or any other vegetable print, finger or hand prints, leaf prints, block prints using polystyrene sheets – cut into it or build it up.....adapt to suit the age and stage of the children. (This would link well with the Maths activities).

Box Sculpture

Share with children the image of the artist Ben Nicholson's work 'Circa 1936 Sculpture' (available on Tate Gallery website <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/nicholson-circa-1936-sculpture-t04119>).

Discuss – what do they see? Use the opportunity to encourage children to use vocabulary that describes surfaces, shadow, light, solid, space etc.. How do they feel about the sculpture – do they like it or not? Why?

Provide children with a selection of boxes to fit together (and paint if they like) to make their own sculptures.

You could get some really large packing boxes for the children to build large sculpture outside.

Minecraft Boxes

Older children may be enjoying playing Minecraft on their computers. You could show them the Tate Gallery's 'Tate Worlds' section on Minecraft creations based on artist's paintings. It might inspire them to create their own designs using squared paper.

Gift Wrap Collages

Provide children with a selection of wrapping paper to cut out or tear to create their own collage designs.





Wrap it Up!

Once again, the Tate Gallery website provides a great starting point:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/make/sculpture/wrap-it>

Here you can find a great lesson idea, by introducing the children to artists that make works of art by wrapping up objects...including buildings.

The pages set out all you, and the children, need to know and do...and they can post a picture of their finished creations on the Tate website.

Why not set up an exhibition in school where others have to guess exactly what is wrapped up?!





History

The Post

The Big ENORMOUS Present provides an opportunity to find out about how the postal service has developed. Children could find out about the history of postage stamps...make a time line showing key events.

The Post Office created a wonderful website in 2016 to celebrate 500 years of post:

<http://500years.royalmailgroup.com/>

There is a timeline here:

<https://www.royalmailheritage.com/main.php>

Children could also find out about the history of greetings cards, postcards, and Christmas cards.





Geography

Gifts from Around the World

Provide pictures or artefacts of gifts from different countries (parents may be able to help by bringing in souvenirs from the holidays) e.g. a boomerang, baseball hat (with American team), woven palm hat, African wooden carvings, Chinese waving cat etc...

Children have to find the source country for the gifts, using maps. Children could pin pictures of the gifts onto a large map in the classroom.

How far have the gifts travelled?

<https://www.freemaptools.com/how-far-is-it-between.htm>

How long would it take to post them?

Challenge the children to find out more about that country: climate, what grows there, landmarks, features of the land etc...

