

Whole class costume workshop

Run a whole class costume workshop with these resources – assuming this is an afternoon session that's 2 hours long.

Objectives

For the children:

- To consider how they would portray their own favourite book
- To create a costume element which supports their book recommendation.



You will need

- World Book Day [Low-cost dressing up pack](#)
- Thin Card – enough for 30 at least A3 per child mainly white but some other colours could be handy too
- Elastic (for masks)
- Lolly Sticks
- White pillowcases (if you have them) If not white fabric we can cut into tabbards x10
- Sellotape – normal, double sided, masking and gaffa
- Glue (PVA if you have it)
- Decorative bits – sequins, beads, feathers (standard crafting/junk modelling stuff) (and containers or trays to put them out in)
- Foil or shiny paper
- Paints – water-based and fabric
- Pencils
- Rulers
- Paint trays and brushes
- Floor/table coverings


We got most of this list from a local scrapstore for less than £30.



Top tips for putting together a costume

- Choose a book your child is happy to talk about.
- Start with things you might already have – tracksuits, t-shirts (inside out to make them plain) and pyjamas make a good base for a costume.
- Focus on the parts of the character that make them stand out - use facepaint or simple props to show these.

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Timings	Section	Activity	Purpose	Resources	Outcome
0-15	Introductions	Book recommendation circles – children form two circles facing each other. Each child has 30 seconds to describe their favorite book to the partner in front of them. After 30 seconds, they rotate to face a new partner and repeat the activity.	Children understand that they are making something to represent their favourite book		Children have identified a costume element to make to represent their favourite book
15-30	Introductions	Template exploration – children in pairs are provided with a blank template for one of the costume elements included in the World Book Day low-cost dressing up pack. Together, they discuss which books the template could help recommend and whether it suits their chosen book. The templates are then passed around, allowing all pairs to explore all options.	Children understand what templates are available for them to use.	Made up blank templates	
30-1:45	Making time	Designing and creating - Children decide what template they would like to use and create their own dressing up item/outfit for them to wear on World Book Day	Children make their costume element	Resource list (above)	Children have created their costume element
1:45-1:00	Plenary +Group Photos	Children can discuss the template and book they have chosen	Children feel valued	Final costume pieces	