

# Introduction

The children using these texts may be attempting written comprehension for the first time. Some will not yet feel secure in reading independently and will need support. Use the opening pointer, provided at the beginning of each text, to introduce it. Then read the text together to build confidence.

The choice of texts reflects the range of genres recommended for Year 3 by the Primary Framework for literacy: information, instructions, glossary and explanation, biography, fiction (including classic fiction and traditional fable), playscripts and poetry. The range of subject matter covers diverse interest areas, appealing to both boys and girls, with themes designed to dovetail with teaching across the curriculum.

To start with, allow the children to work in small groups or pairs. An adult discussing each text and modelling how to answer different styles of question is also helpful. Many questions involve simple retrieval of information. Some require inferential understanding, where the child must recognise the cause and effect of an action or identify a character's feelings. Others test the child's ability to understand new words – by recognising similarities to familiar words and by using contextual clues. Most activities include different question types, from multiple choice to personal comment. Working in twos may enable the children to discuss questions before committing pen to paper and, again, build confidence.

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