



Take It Outside English KS2

Location, Location

Introduction

What would your perfect home look like? This writing activity encourages children to look at particular needs and encourages them to be inventive in their choice of material to build the dream home for someone. You'll need the power of persuasion and the gift of the gab to succeed!



You will need:

- A variety of material gathered from your outdoor space: sticks, straw, leaves, stones, logs, etc.
- A selection of junk modelling material
- Clipboard, pens, a 'buyer' (e.g. soft toy, minibeast, character, doll)

Key Questions

- What material will you use?
- How big does your home need to be?
- What does your home provide for potential buyers?
- What vocabulary will you use to persuade your buyer?

What to do:

1. Set the scene by introducing the 'buyer'. You can choose this to be real (for example a squirrel or bird) or fictional (for example, a fairy or elf).
2. The buyer needs a new home and your task is to build one for them.
3. Consider your buyer carefully. What do you think they need in a home? What do you think they would like? You could provide building blocks, cardboard boxes and junk modelling, or collect material you find on the ground such as sticks, leaves and grass. Expect justification for choices made. For example, leaves to form a waterproof roof.
4. Ready? Steady? Build! This is a perfect opportunity to develop speech and language as the children work together to create a perfect home. Encourage talk by filming busy activity and discussions.
5. Once built, encourage children to add detail to their home.



6. Now it's time to persuade! Remind the group of the features of persuasive writing with this handy [Features of Persuasion Texts Poster](#).
7. Use these [Blank Writing Frames](#) for the children to draw a diagram of their home and make notes on the unique features and superb selling points it offers to a potential buyer. (You could take this back to class to write an extended piece later.)
8. Remember to take the buyer to view each property and expect the children to use their powers of persuasion to really sell their design.

Ways to Support

Use group work to support. Provide word banks to develop vocabulary. Record voices and play them back so children can hear themselves speak. Would you persuade yourself?

Ways to Extend

Give children exact requirements to include in their design, for example, space for three; a second floor. Record voices and play them back - would you persuade yourself? Choose WOW words.

Curriculum Links

English: Give well-structured descriptions & explanations for different purposes; use relevant strategies to build their vocabulary.