

WRITE WITH STORY STONES

Create and play with painted story stones to spark the imagination of your section

SUITABLE FOR BEAVERS, CUBS, SCOUTS

1 Get everyone in your group to bring in around 5–6 stones each. Make sure they are all smooth and have been cleaned well.

2 On a sheet of paper, ask everyone to write a list of 5–6 everyday objects or ideas such as clothes, flowers, weathers, foods, faces, shapes and so on.

3 Each young person should paint each item on their list as a simple symbol on the stones they have.

4 Leave the stones in a safe place to dry. Once dry, put everyone's stones, or a selection of them, into the drawstring bag.

5 Get everyone to sit in a circle. One person picks a stone out of the bag and, using the symbol as inspiration, says a couple of sentences to start the story.

6 The next person picks a stone and carries on the story, again using the symbol on the stone to work their imagination. Continue in this way until the story reaches its natural conclusion.

7 The group can make another bag of story stones and tell another tale. You can also use your stones to create an artistic scene or as inspiration for a poem or short story.



TIME NEEDED

60 minutes

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- A selection of smooth stones that fit in the palm of your hand
- Acrylic paints
- Paintbrushes
- A drawstring bag

THIS ACTIVITY LINKS WITH THE FOLLOWING BADGES



Beaver Creative Activity Badge



Cub Artist Activity Badge



Kip McGrath Scout Writer Activity Badge

OUTCOMES

Young people enjoy painting on stones and come up with ideas, prompted by these, to tell a story.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The group could use any spare stones to make a simple outdoor 'noughts and crosses' game. They just need 10 stones – five painted in one pattern and five in another. Then lay out four thin strips of card, or dowelling in the usual noughts and crosses grid and they're ready to play.

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