

Matilda - The Third Miracle

Lesson
plan

Overview

Learning objective

- To explore and develop strategies to produce a headlining newspaper report.

Learning outcome

- To produce a headlining newspaper report about the Miracle at Crunchem Primary School.

Book reference

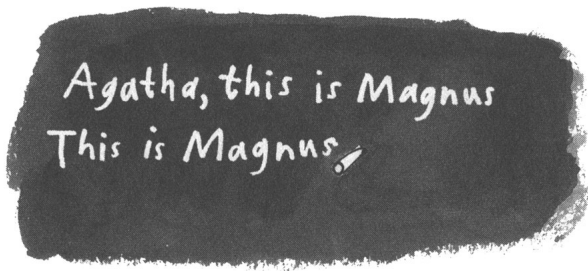
- Chapter 20: The Third Miracle.

Cross-curricular link

- Drama, Literacy, Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education.

Resources

- Sample newspaper reports, a chair for the hotseat.



Agatha, this is Magnus
This is Magnus.

Starter

- Read the twentieth chapter of *Matilda*, The Third Miracle.

Main teaching activity

- Tell the class you are going to have the opportunity to hear an eyewitness account of the event. One child sits in the hotseat as a character from the scene. The rest of the class asks questions about the events in class that afternoon. Other children can also be hotseated as characters including Miss Trunchbull, Miss Honey or Matilda.
- Show a newspaper report to the class. The class identify key features of the newspaper report, in terms of layout and language.

Group or independent activity

- In groups or independently, the class make the front page of a newspaper, with its headlining article the events at Crunchem Primary School.
- Include the following:
 - A title, using alliteration.
 - A catchy by-line.
 - Paragraphs.
 - An account of the shocking event.
 - Eyewitness accounts.

Plenary

- Display newspaper reports around the room. The children can walk around and read each others' work.



Other activities

- Role play and film a Breaking News Report about the event, with interviews from key eyewitnesses and family members.
- Create a piece of descriptive writing, retelling the events of chapter 20 from the point of view of some one there. Use these questions as guidelines:
 - Who or what are you? Miss Trunchbull, Miss Honey, Matilda, a child in the classroom, the piece of chalk, the blackboard?
 - How did you feel before the miraculous events started?
 - How did you feel as you were witnessing the events?
 - How have you changed as a result of the bizarre afternoon?
- Interview Magnus' ghost. Imagine Magnus was watching all the events all the time in ghost-form. What does he have to say about the events of the afternoon?



It is Magnus
And you'd better
believe it 