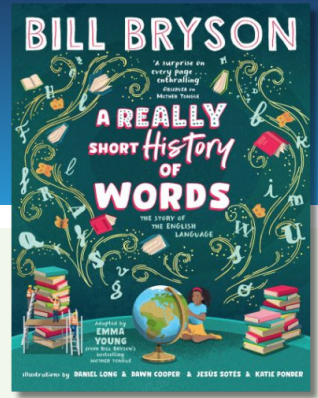




BOOK TALK CARDS



THEMES:

- Shakespeare • Dictionary
- History • English language

A Really Short History of Words

By Bill Bryson and Emma Young

Every day, you do something incredible, and I bet you barely ever think about it: you speak. But have you ever wondered why the English language turned out like it did? If so, this is the book for you. It will also answer some VERY important questions . . .



OUR THOUGHTS

"Well adapted for younger readers with a wealth of interesting information. Immensely readable for all linguaphiles whether for lesiure or topic support."

TIME TO TALK

- 1 Why do you think more people speak English than any other language? What other languages do you speak? What other languages would you like to learn? Why is it important to know more than one language?
- 2 Can you communicate effectively without words? Tell your friend what you did at the weekend without using words. How did this make you feel? How has this helped you to understand the importance of language?
- 3 Do you think it's important that everyone learns sign language and why?
- 4 Why do you think people continue to learn ancient languages when they are not used for everyday communication?
- 5 Many words have changed their meanings over the years. Do you agree that certain words should have their meanings changed? Can you think of words that you use today whose meaning was different for your parents?
- 6 English spellings can sometimes be quite tricky. Which words have you struggled to spell because they sound nothing like the pronunciation of the word?
- 7 Some American words are spelled differently to English words. How does this cause confusion for children at school? Should we allow American spellings? Is it wrong to spell words the American way?
- 8 Some words just sound good. What are your favourite words? What words do you use to impress your friends? Do you enjoy learning new words and why?



TAKE THE TEXT FURTHER WITH OUR TOP 5 TITLES TO CONTINUE THE THEME:

