Danny the Champion of the World

The Secret Methods

Overview

Learning objective
- to be able to analyse, design and evaluate a new pheasant-catching trick for Danny and his dad.

Learning outcome
- to create a new pheasant-catching trick.

Book reference

Cross-curricular link
- Art, Design and Technology, Science.

Resources
- Craft materials for making a poster.

Starter

- Recap Danny’s dad’s secret methods: The Horse-hair Stopper and The Sticky Hat.
- Discuss in pairs which method is better and why.
- Pairs feedback ideas to the rest of the class.
Main teaching activity

• Agree on criteria for a good pheasant-catching trick (for example: low-cost materials, minimum noise or movement, well camouflaged, success-rating, etc).

Group or independent activity

• The children work in groups of 4.
• Discuss ideas for a new pheasant-catching trick
• Make a poster for the design of the trick with materials and step-by-step, illustrated instructions.

Plenary

• Each team pitches the idea to the rest of the class.
• The class ask questions about advantages and disadvantages of the trick.
• The class mark the trick using the agreed criteria.
• Teams write an evaluation of their trick.

Other activities

• Make a role play acting out the trick on unsuspecting pheasants.
• Write an extra chapter of Danny the Champion of the World in which Danny and his dad try to carry out the new trick but it all goes disastrously wrong.
• Write an essay comparing and contrasting each team’s trick and stating which is the best and why.
• Make a storyboard showing the trick catching a pheasant.
• Role play an advert to show audiences how to carry out the trick.