Overview

Learning objective
• To explore and develop effective ways to describe an experience.

Learning outcome
• To make a word-picture describing a story entitled: The first time I...

Book reference
• Chapter 7.

Cross-curricular link
• Literacy, Drama, Art.

Resources
• Paper.

Starter

• On the board, show a picture of Danny driving the Baby Austin.

• How does Danny feel as he drives his Baby Austin? The children come and write words on the board around the picture to describe how Danny feels.

• Use thesauri to suggest more words.
• The children think of an example of an experience using the starter sentence: The first time I... (went on a fairground ride/went to school/rode a bicycle/climbed up a tall building). It can be real or imagined.

• Pairs tell each other the story of The first time I... in the style of Danny's description of driving the Baby Austin in chapter 7. They can use these questions as guidelines:

- What did you do?
- Why did you do it?
- What scared you about the experience?
- What excited you about the experience? (“Most of the really exciting things we do in our lives scare us to death.”).
- What dangers did you meet? (in chapter 7: the policeman, the other car passing the Baby Austin).
- Describe the scene using the five senses (e.g. three words for each sense).
- What metaphors can you think of to describe the experience? (in chapter 7: “a ghost boy driving a ghost car”; “its headlamps were like two dazzling white eyes.”).
- Describe how you felt (in Chapter 7: “my heart was thumping away so fiercely I could hear it in my throat”).

• Selected students can feedback their ideas to the rest of the class.
Danny the Champion of the World - The first time I... cont.

Group or independent activity

• The children draw an image in the centre of the page that sums up the theme of their story.
• They write words around the image to describe what happened and how they felt.
• They can use thesauri for more words.

Plenary

• Selected children show their word/picture pages.
• Other children guess what happened.
• The children explain their stories.

Other activities

• The children extend their word/picture pages into a piece of creative writing entitled *The first time I*...
• Look at paragraph and sentence structure in chapter 7. Explore how short paragraphs and short sentences help to build suspense:

  "I waited to see if he would come back again.
  He didn’t come.
  I switched on my lights.
  I pressed the starter. She started at once."

• Use this technique in the piece of creative writing.
• The children role play their stories.