

The Magic Finger Decision Alley



Overview

Learning objective

- To be able to present a reasoned argument.

Learning outcome

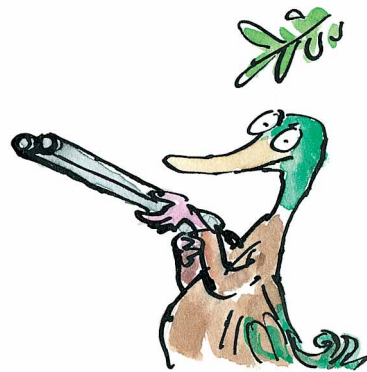
- To enter a debate for or against killing wildlife for food or resources.

Book reference

- *The Magic Finger*.

Cross-curricular link

- Literacy, History, Geography, Drama, Personal, Soc Health and Citizenship Education.



Preparation

- Prior to the lesson, the children have researched the killing of animals for various ends in different countries (e.g. elephants for ivory, lions for skin, fox-hunting and so on).

Starter

- Summarise the moral of *The Magic Finger*.
- Recap main points from the book through quickfire questions:
 - Why do Mr and Mrs Gregg want to shoot ducks at the beginning of the story?
 - Why is the Girl against shooting ducks?

Main teaching activity

- Students divide into groups. Some groups are for killing wildlife and others against killing wildlife. They prepare their arguments.
- Make a decision alley. The children stand in two lines facing each other. One line represents for, and the other against. One child walks between the two lines (the alley) and while walking, the children in the two lines state reasons for or against the argument.

Group or independent activity

- Run a class debate. There is one line of for, and another against. One person from each side is allowed to speak for 1 minute giving their arguments. Then volunteers can continue to debate the issue back and forth.



Plenary

- Students vote on their ideas.

Other activities

- Write a persuasive speech for or against killing wildlife for certain ends.
- Make a poster to persuade people not to kill animals for certain ends.