

**Scale Up!**

The activities given below are aimed to allow the students to use a variety of language skills and use them beyond the regular curriculum.

These activities are not to be graded or assessed. These are for taking their language skills to the next level.

**What is a Rebus story?**

A rebus story is a type of story which uses pictures in place of words or parts of words and can be found in children's word puzzles and riddles. An example of a rebus used in language would be the phrase, "A bright sunny day", where the word "sunny" would be replaced with the picture of a "sun".

Rebus stories can be an innovative mnemonic technique to teach students new words, to help them in recalling existing words and to also assist them in associating pictures with words.

**Learning Outcomes**

This activity will help students to:

- Identify meanings of new words
- Associate words with pictures
- Memorise the meaning of new words
- Write stories with new words instantly
- Read stories with new words with little or no help

**Making a Rebus story**

- First explain the students the meaning of Rebus story and show them a sample rebus story given in Appendix A.
- Then, either distribute a list of images as shown in Appendix B. You could add pictures to the list. Or you could distribute old magazines and newspapers to the students. They can cut the pictures from the same.
- Then, instruct them to make a short story consisting of 5 sentences.
- They can write a rough draft of the story in their notebooks.

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- They can then search for the pictures that can be used in the story in the newspaper and magazines or the list provided by you.
  - You could help them cut the pictures.
  - Then, you could instruct them to write the story on a chart paper and stick the pictures at appropriate places.
  - Then, tell them to come one by one and present the story to the class.
  - To make the task more structured, you could give the class a theme to base their story on.

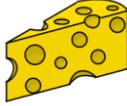
### Appendix A

#### Sample Rebus story

It was a bright  day. I took my  and went outside to play.

There I saw a . I threw my  at him. He  it with his mouth.

Appendix B

Sun		House	
Cake		Fish	
Duck		Cat	
Pond		dance	
table		study	
happy		sad	
fairy		gold	
night		cheese	

## Acrostic Poems

### What is an Acrostic poem?

An Acrostic poem uses the letters in a given topic word to begin each line.

E.g. **F**un to be with

**R**eady to help you

**I**nclude you

**E**ntertain you

**N**ever leave you

**D**o crazy things with you

In the above example, all lines describe and are related to the topic FRIEND. In this way, you can take any topic and just write a few words about it.

### Learning Outcomes

This activity will enable the students to:

- Use describing words/ phrases
- Hone their creative writing skills
- Associate words with words belonging to the same word family
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### How to teach students to write an Acrostic poem?

- First explain the students the meaning of an Acrostic poem and give them some examples.
- Then, give them words like- MOTHER, HOUSE, SUN, STAR, DOG, BALL, RAIN etc. and tell them to write a few words related to it and in front of it.
- If they like this game, then you can also tell them to take the letters in their name and describe themselves in one word in the same way.
- You can also tell them to write their Acrostic poems on a chart paper and draw the given word in the form of pictures around it and decorate.

**DICTIONARY SCAVENGER HUNT**

This activity will help students use their dictionary skills, reading skills, grammar skills and vocabulary skills.

**How to conduct a Dictionary Scavenger Hunt?**

1. For this activity organise the students in groups of four.
2. Each group will need a dictionary, a few pencils and a paper to scribble.
3. You will need to make chits with clues. There will be four to five clues for each group.
4. The team that finds the answers to all the clues first, wins.
5. Some samples for clues are given below

**Clues for group**

1. Find the word that begins with 'acc' and means perfect. (Ans: accurate)
2. Find a word that begins with 'img' and means the ability to create pictures in your mind. (Ans: imagination)
3. Find a word that begins with 'stu' and means strong. (Ans: sturdy)
4. Find a word that starts with 'h' and is opposite soft (Ans: hard)
5. This word means costly and starts with 'exp'. (Ans: expensive)
6. This is a fruit. It is green in colour and starts with 'p'. (Ans: peach)
7. Find the name of an animal that begins with 'h' and loves the water. (Ans: hippo)
8. Find the name of a sport that begins with 'h' and is played with a ball. (Ans: hockey, handball)
9. Find the word that begins with 'ta' and rhymes with mask. (Ans: mask)
10. Find the word that begins with 'ch'. We eat it with bread. (Ans: cheese)

**Movie Mania**

Students enjoy watching movies. We can use movies as a teaching aid to enhance language proficiency and accuracy. In the usual programme of work, there are very few opportunities to watch, discuss, and evaluate movies. Also the level of language proficiency required to watch and enjoy English movies is very high.

**Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the activity students will be able to:

1. Identify meanings of words based on the context
2. Experience the usage of language by native speakers in real contexts
3. Express opinions about the story line

**Selection of Movies**

Selecting appropriate movies is crucial to enhance the students' movie watching experience.

Consider the following aspects while selecting a movie;

- What is the proficiency level of my students?
- What excites my students?
- What themes will my students be able to relate to?
- How much time do I have to complete this activity?
- Which movies are readily available?

Depending on the answers for the above questions, select a movie that will help students not just improve their language skills but use their existing language skills effectively.

**Suggested List of Movies**

1. Finding Nemo
2. Sound of Music
3. Home Alone 1
4. Despicable Me
5. Jungle Book
6. Ant Bully
7. Monsters University
8. The Lion King
9. Stuart Little
10. Babe

**Post Watching Activity**

Though this is a fun activity, it has to have language outcomes. After watching the entire movie or parts of the movie, you could ask the following probing questions.

1. Who are the animals/ people in the movie?
2. What was the movie about?
3. Who was your favourite animal/ person in the movie? Why?
4. Did you like the movie? Why?
5. Which was your favourite scene? Why?
6. Name two new words that you have learnt in the movie? What do they mean?

**Extension Activity**

- You could ask them to write the story in their own words.
- You could ask them to enact the story or a part of the story in groups.
- You could ask them to draw their favourite scene/ character and describe it in their own words.
- You could give them a graphic organiser. A sample is given below:

Who is happening in the movie?		Who is in the movie?
Name of the movie		
Do you like the movie? Why?		Where is the movie happening?