

## Y3/4 - Term 5 English Home-Learning Week 5

### Week 4 Alternative Text - George and the Dragon

This week we are looking at the legend of St. George and the Dragon. Rather like the legend of Robin Hood, the character of George is based on a real person. The George in this story is the patron saint of England, who is celebrated on April 23<sup>rd</sup> every year.

#### Background to the George and the Dragon legend for adults

It is believed that the historical George lived in Cappadocia in the Near East. He was a soldier in the Roman army and was martyred at Nicomedia in the year 303 AD. during the reign of the pagan Emperor Diocletian. He was killed for trying to prevent Christians being persecuted for their faith.

In 1222 his festival was made a national holiday, and in 1330 King Edward 111 founded the Order of the Garter "in honour of God, Our Lady, and Saint George." In 1348 the Chapel at Windsor Castle was dedicated to him and, in 1399, St. George was formally declared patron saint of England. His day, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, is also Shakespeare's birthday. George is also patron saint of Portugal.

#### Activity 1:

- **Either**, read the story to your child, stopping at various places to check understanding, discuss the characters, predict what might happen next or explain any new vocabulary
- **Or**, let your child read the story to you (but guide them to include the above activities)

Activity 2: Choose one or more of these follow up activities based on the story of George and the Dragon.

- Create a story map of George and the Dragon using pictures and words
- Find five words in the text that you do not know the meanings of - look up the meanings and write a new sentence for each word.
- This retelling of George and the Dragon does not have any pictures to go with it. Imagine you are the illustrator - draw a picture of one of the main characters OR draw a picture to go with a part of the story, (perhaps the dragon frightening the villagers or George fighting the dragon and rescuing the princess).
- Imagine you are a news reporter - write a news report about the defeat of the dragon by George.

- Write from a different character's point of view -eg, imagine you are the dragon and write about the day *George* arrives to fight you - OR imagine you are the princess and write about what happens after *George* defeats the dragon.
- Write a paragraph describing the fight between *George* and the dragon, using some powerful adjectives and verbs.
- Make a poster showing the main characters of the story and write a sentence to describe each of them.
- Make a cartoon version of the story.
- Watch this cartoon of another story based on *George* and the Dragon by Chris Wormell.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IA9nAvl8uuw>  
What parts of the story are the same as the legend and what parts are different?

### Activity 3 Grammar:

#### Y3 and Y4: Cursive Handwriting

Possible resources:

- Cursive Letter Formation PowerPoint (this shows children how to form each letter properly and they can then practise them)
- Fine Motor/ Gross Motor Warm Up Exercises  
For those who struggle with handwriting, there are some great exercises here that will help to strengthen the muscles.
- Pencil Control Patterns Worksheet

Activities for children to choose from:

Children can choose to copy one of the suggested poems or choose/write a poem of their own. Remind children that this exercise is to practise cursive handwriting, so they should ensure that they are trying their best to form the letters correctly. They should take their time and take care over their presentation. Children could illustrate their poems once they have finished.

- The Eagle Poem
- Windy Nights Poem
- Find or write a poem of your own