

Project 3: Pick and mix

Objective

To develop and refine ideas in writing using planning and problem-solving strategies. (Year 4 Strand 9)

What's on the CD-ROM

Pick and mix

- Pick a theme for a realistic story.
- Pick two supporting characters to feature in the story.
- Type in story ideas.

Story planner

- Complete the plan.

My realistic story

- Compose a story.

What to do

This project offers children different choices to trigger ideas for a realistic story.

- Open 'Pick and mix' from the CD-ROM. Click on a theme and invite the children to suggest ideas for how to develop it.
- Next, click on two supporting characters. Challenge the children to think how the characters might feature in a story about the chosen theme.
- Explain to the children that they are going to plan and write a story choosing one of the themes and picking two characters to feature in the story.
- Click on more cards to explore different combinations. Encourage the children to explore the possibilities; for example, a troublemaker might feature in a story about bullying, or a toy companion in a story about a family problem.
- Using the theme and two characters selected by the class type in notes to plan a realistic story.
- Alternatively, copy and cut out a set of themes and characters from photocopyable page 41 'Pick and mix' and hold up each card for the children to consider and make their choices.
- Provide the children with time to plan and write their own realistic stories, using the 'Story planner' and 'My realistic story' writing templates from the CD-ROM.