

Talk about it

SECTION

5

Flat Stanley's travels

Objective: To explore, develop and sustain ideas through talk.

What you need: Copies of *Flat Stanley*, photocopiable page 23, coloured pens and a map or atlas of the world.

Cross-curricular link: Geography.

What to do

- You might like to look at 'The Official Flat Stanley Project' on www.flatstanley.com before running this activity.
- Ask the children where Stanley went in the story (California) and how he travelled there. Encourage them to imagine they could travel by being posted anywhere in the world. Invite the children to suggest places where they would like to be posted to and why. What do they think it might feel like to be posted? Ask them to recall what Stanley took with him in the envelope. Let the children look at the relevant pages if they need help remembering. What would they take in their envelope? How would they feel when

their envelope was opened at their destination?

- Ask the children to suggest other places that Stanley could be posted to and use the map or atlas to find these places. Draw up a list of their suggestions and talk together about what these places are like. For example, what would the weather be like, what sort of buildings would he see, what people, animals and birds might live there? You could give them an example to stimulate their imaginations.
- Arrange the children into pairs. Provide the pairs with copies of photocopiable page 23 and coloured pens. Ask them to collaborate to choose one place to send Stanley and write and draw information about the destination.

Differentiation

For older/more confident learners: Ask the children to write two sentences for each section.

For younger/less confident learners: Let the children draw the information only.

Dressing Flat Stanley

Objective: To offer reasons and evidence for their views, considering alternative opinions.

What you need: Copies of *Flat Stanley*, photocopiable page 24.

Cross-curricular link: Geography.

What to do

- This activity could follow on from 'Flat Stanley's travels'.
- Remind the children of the places they chose to send Flat Stanley to in an envelope. Refer them to the list collected in 'Flat Stanley's travels'. Choose some of the places and ask them to describe the weather and/or the landscape. If possible pick locations with contrasting climates and contrasting landscapes, for example, very hot places and very cold places, mountains, seaside, the North Pole and so on.
- Invite the children to recall how Stanley

dresses in the story. Allow them to flick through the book to help them remember. Discuss how they think Stanley should dress in each of the different locations. Ask them to give reasons for their suggestions.

- Put the children in pairs and give out copies of photocopiable page 24. Ask them to research and talk about each setting.
- Ask the children to write down words and phrases on the photocopiable sheet to describe what Stanley should wear in each setting. Discuss the children's findings as a class.

Differentiation

For older/more confident learners: Encourage the children to write a paragraph to describe the clothes and why they suit the setting.

For younger/less confident learners: Allow the children to focus on just two locations on the sheet.