

TEACHER NOTES

Follow Sherlock Holmes, and his friends, on his adventures as he tries to find the world's most precious diamond. Written as a graphic novel this snappy jewel heist will have young readers on the edge of their seats and create the next generation of Sherlock super fans.

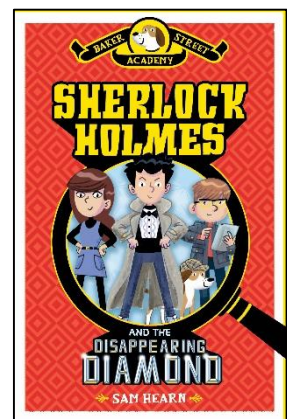
Activity 1: Lucky Story Dice

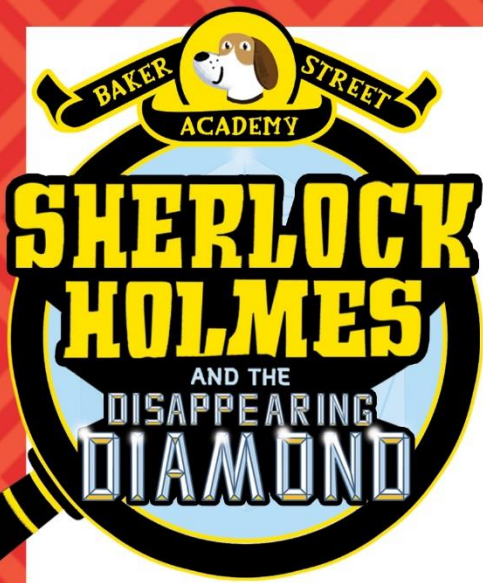
Learning Objective: To describe settings, characters and atmosphere

Read *Sherlock Holmes and the Disappearing Diamond* to your class or as a guided reading text. Discuss it, ask children to sum up the plot, talk about characters they liked, their favourite parts of the story, style of the text, particular word choices or descriptions they thought had impact and why etc.

Explain to the children that over the next three activities they are going to write and create their own Sherlock cartoon. The first part of the process is to think about the plot, about what is going to happen in your story. Ask the children if they know how a story is made up, what kind of elements does a story have to have? Give the children some time to share their ideas with the person sitting next to them. Next ask the children to share their ideas. They should talk about characters, heroes and villains, setting, a problem and a solution.

Sam Hearn's
*Sherlock Holmes and the
Disappearing Diamond*
is available now!





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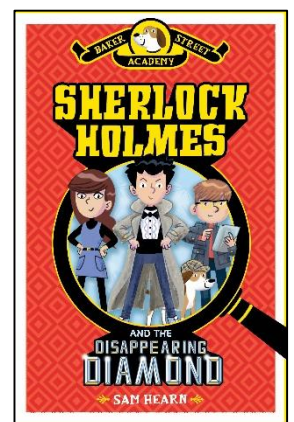
Explain that we know who the heroes of our story are going to be Sherlock, Watson and Martha, but we need to come up with some ideas for villains. Write down children's ideas on the board, you might have an evil old lady with a googly glass eye, a beautiful but deadly hair dresser with scissors that are razor sharp, a shadowy mysterious prince with a dark secret, a brilliant but deadly doctor.

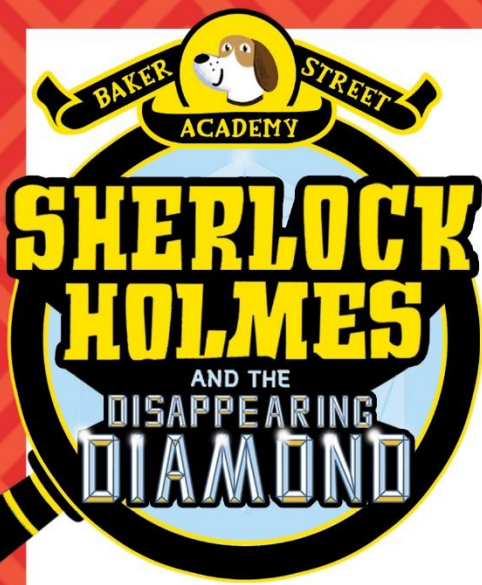
The more creative and imaginative the better. Repeat this process with settings. Next the children have to think of what the problem could be, is it that the most famous painting in the worlds has been stolen, that pupils at Baker Street Academy keep losing their memories or that Baskerville has gone missing etc. The children will have wild ideas that will make fantastic stories.

Next show the children the net of the dice. Explain that in their groups the children need to make 3 dice. One dice is to have pictures and names/descriptions of 6 different villains, the other will have pictures, names and descriptions of where the story will take place and the third will have drawings and written descriptions of the problems in the story.

Put the children into mixed ability groups of three. The more able children could do the writing, while the SEN children could share their ideas orally.

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Once all three dice have been made they can be cut out and stuck along the flaps and folded together to make the cubes.

Finally the children can roll each dice in turn to determine what is going to happen in their stories. They can orally rehearse their stories in their groups. E.g The first roll is where the story is set, then the problem and finally the villain. Once the children have decided on their story they must discuss a resolution. How Sherlock is going to solve the mystery.

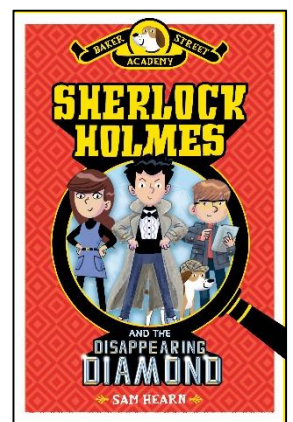
Plenary:

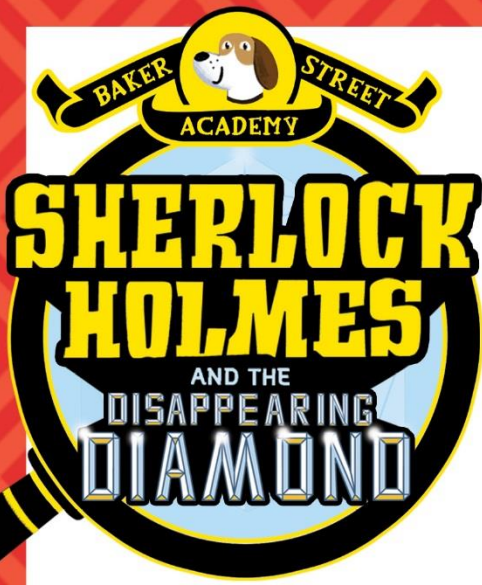
Children to tell each other their stories. The rest of the class to listen and give ideas about how they could improve their stories if necessary. Keep children's illustrated dice for next activity and to put up on the 'Sherlock' display.

Resources:

- 1 x copy of *Sherlock Holmes and the Disappearing Diamond*
- 30 copies of the dice net
- Colouring pencils and pencils
- Scissors and glue

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Activity 2: Hit the drawing board!

Learning Objective: To integrate dialogue to convey character and advance the action of the story.

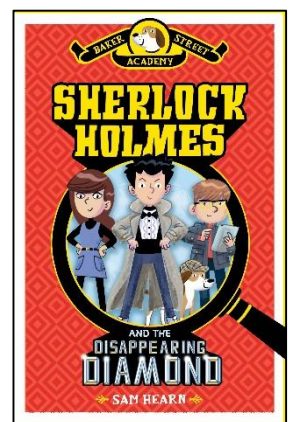
Refresh the children's memory regarding the previous learning surrounding *Sherlock Holmes and the Disappearing Diamond*. Using the dice they made in the previous activity as a visual prompt ask the children to retell their stories to each other.

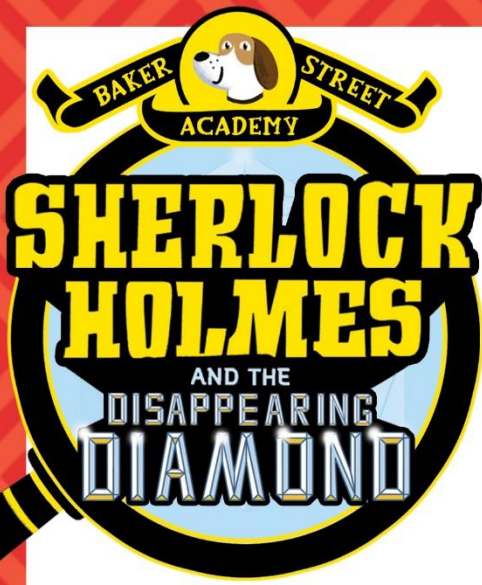
Once all the children have remembered their stories show the children the cartoon story board frame. Model how to draw characters and speech bubbles as they do in the novel. Encourage the children to think deeply about how the character talk and interact with each other. Talk about what kind of characters Sherlock, Watson and Martha are, what are their personality traits and how could we reflect this in the things they say? You could have an enlarged copy of page 82's dialogue to help illustrate this point.

Next explain that all the children are going to draw and write their stories on the story board frame, paying particular attention to the characters and their dialogue. They can also write what is happening in the story in the section under their pictures.

Less able children could complete the Sherlock and Watson speech bubble sheet. They could also be given a word bank with relevant vocabulary on to support their writing further.

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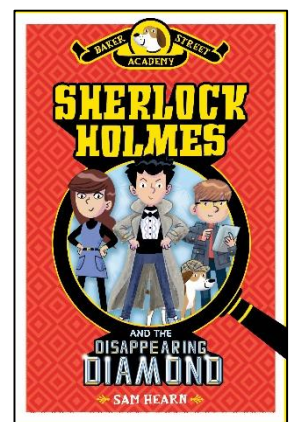
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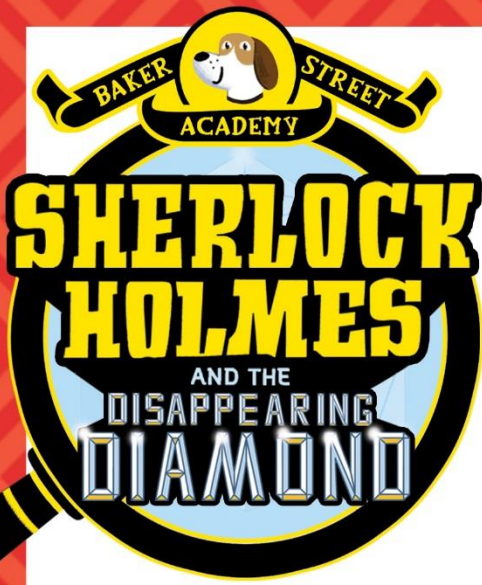
Children to come to the front and share their ideas. The rest of the children should listen carefully and decide if the writer has really got across what kind of people the characters are through the dialogue they have written in their story. Put some of the best story boards on your Sherlock display.

Resources:

- 30 copies of the cartoon storyboard.
- Sherlock and Watson speech bubble sheet for less able writers
- Coloured pencils
- Writing pencils

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Activity 3: Eat your heart out Pixar!

Learning Objective: To prepare readings, with appropriate intonation to show our understanding.

Show some of the children's fantastic story boards from the previous activity. Explain that today the children are going to make their own animation of their Sherlock story. You could video the children using puppets they have made and the fantastic cut outs of Sherlock, Martha and Watson, in this pack. Alternatively you could use a digital animation program widely available on school tablets.

The children will need at least one session to complete their animations.

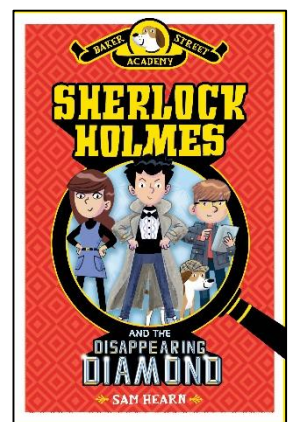
Plenary:

Organise a 'World Premier' of the new Sherlock Holmes adventure and invite other classes to come and see your children's wonderful work.

Resources:

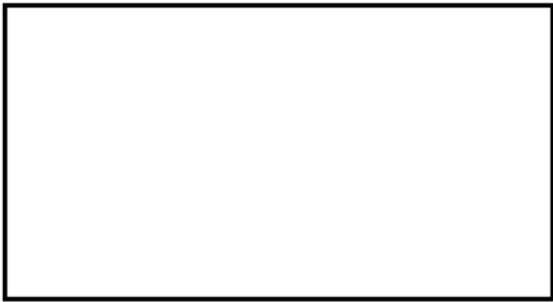
- Dependent on your choice of animation.
- Sherlock, Martha & Watson cut out puppets
- Cardboard
- Lolly sticks
- Glue
- Felt tips
- Tablets

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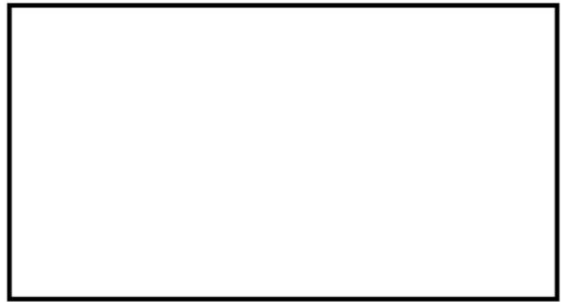
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