

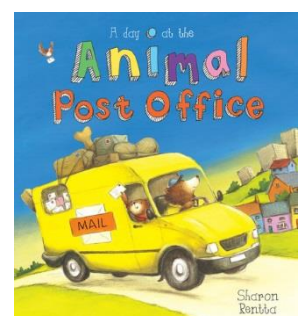


***A Day at the Animal Post Office* written  
and illustrated by Sharon Rentta**

1 – Let's play Post Offices

- Set up a Post Office role play area in the classroom, and equip it with stampers, letters, cardboard boxes, postcards, envelopes, birthday cards, bubble wrap weighing scales, a till with play coins etc. You could work in the role play area with children to help them explore writing for a purpose, and to weigh different items to give practice establishing heavier/lighter and reading simple scales.
- Help each child to make up a 'letter'. Help them to write their name on an envelope and stick their photo on it too. As part of registration each day, encourage children to find their letter and 'post' it in a postbox. Children can then take turns to be postman and deliver the letters to the right individual, giving them a good opportunity to learn the names of the other children in a new class, and to start recognising the letters/sounds at the start of each other's names. Extend this activity so that there are some letters 'addressed' to key members of staff or locations around the school. Asking children to deliver the letters will provide an opportunity for them to familiarise themselves with their new environment.

*Continued on next page*

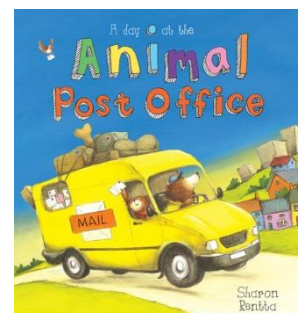




*A Day at the Animal Post Office* written  
and illustrated by Sharon Rentta

1 - Let's play Post Offices

- Give children the task of sorting letters for different postmen's rounds. This could be used as an opportunity to sort letter sounds you are practising or familiarise children with different numbers. Once the letters are sorted, you can ask questions such as How many letters altogether? Who has the most? Who has the least? How many do you have if you add your bag and his bag together? Give out an extra letter – how many letters do you have now?

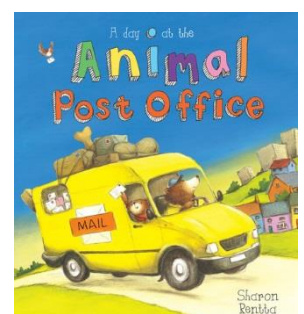




*A Day at the Animal Post Office* written  
and illustrated by Sharon Rentta

2 - Lots of letters

Brainstorm with children what kind of letters people receive, and on which occasions people write letters. There are examples you can draw on in the book. Invite children to write/draw a postcard to their family, focusing on some of the things they have been doing at school. This is an opportunity for children to practice writing their name, or for more able children to write simple sentences.

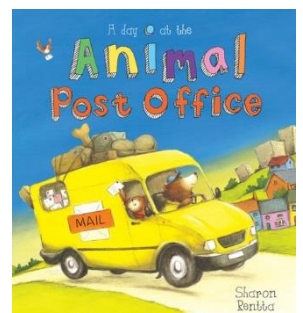




*A Day at the Animal Post Office* written  
and illustrated by Sharon Rentta

3 - Where are the letters going?

Talk to the children about any countries they know or have been to. Find these on a world map. Show the children where the North Pole is, and talk about what it might be like there. What animals would you find at the North Pole? If Polly was writing to Jack about what it was like at the North Pole, what would she say?





***A Day at the Animal Post Office* written  
and illustrated by Sharon Rentta**

EYFS Early Learning Goals

**Listening, attention and understanding (Communication and language)**

Children listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions.

**Speaking (Communication and language)**

Children express their ideas and feelings using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses. They offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories and non-fiction.

**Self-regulation (Personal, social and emotional development)**

They give focused attention to what the teacher says, responding appropriately even when engaged in activity. Children show an ability to follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.

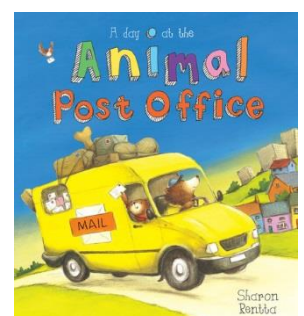
**Building relationships (Personal, social and emotional development)**

Children work and play cooperatively and take turns with others. They form positive attachments to adults and friendships with peers.

**Moving and handling (Physical development)**

They hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases.

*Continued on next page*





*A Day at the Animal Post Office* written  
and illustrated by Sharon Rentta

EYFS Early Learning Goals

### **Comprehension (Literacy)**

Children demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.

### **Writing (Literacy)**

They write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.

### **Numerical patterns (Mathematics)**

They compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity.

### **Past and present (Understanding the world)**

They talk about the lives of people around them and their roles in society.

**People, culture and communities (Understanding the world)** Children explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and – when appropriate – maps.

### **Being imaginative and expressive (Expressive arts and design)**

They invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher.

