SHARED READING

Extract 3

- Display Extract 3, the climax of 'Toomai of the Elephants'. Ask the children to remember what has come before.
- Ask: What can Toomai see in this extract? (nothing) What is being described? (what he can hear) What is the effect of this? (creates atmosphere; makes it more scary for Toomai; keeps the secret of the elephant-dance which Toomai only experiences and doesn't really see)
- Together, circle the sounds that Toomai can hear. Ask: How do the sounds change? Agree that they get louder and louder: first they are quiet rustling and gurgling sounds, then silence, then a sudden and almighty trumpet, then stamping and crashing that is so loud that Toomai can feel it in his body. Encourage the children to imagine if this scene was filmed what would the soundtrack be like? Introduce the word 'crescendo', meaning getting louder. Remind the children of previous descriptive passages with layers of detail.
- Ask: What does Toomai feel physically? He can feel the dew, the motion of the elephants, the noise through his body. Imagine the sudden shock of the trunk touching his knee in the dark.
- Ask: What does Toomai feel emotionally? (perhaps scared and shocked, but also elated)
- Ask: Why does Toomai feel as if he is alone, when he is surrounded by elephants? (He is the only human, he is not part of the dance, he cannot see anything.)
- Ask: Without any description of what can be seen, can you describe what happens in the elephant-dance?

Extract 4

- If possible, watch the 2016 film of *The Jungle* Book before sharing Extract 4. After reading a book steeped in myth and imagination, the facts of the creation of *The Jungle Book* film almost seem the most unbelievable story. Support this text by watching clips of Neel Sethi on the Disney sound stage and of the way the animation of the animals was built up.
- Ask: What sort of text is this? (explanation) What features can we find? Circle the elements as the children find them: title, subtitle, adverbials for time ('First', 'then', 'finally'), description of a process, technical terms, did you know box.
- Ask: What rhetorical features can we spot? (questions; emotive language such as 'unimaginable', 'breathtaking', 'impact')
- Ask: What technical terms are specific to this subject – the film industry? Discuss the meaning of each. ('live action' – filmed with real people; 'motion capture' - recording the movement of an animal or person in order to animate a character; 'frame' – a picture that is combined with thousands of pictures to make a film; 'sound stage' – a stage used in filming)
- Ask: Does this non-fiction text have a point of view? Agree that it tries to persuade you to admire the skill and success of the film. Ask: Does it make you want to watch the film/watch it again?