

Aims

1. To enable children to write descriptions, portraits and recipes using simple frames
2. To create a monster character to feature in a myth or similar story.

Resources

- ❖ Monster Motel on Kids on the Net website: <http://www.kidsonthenet.com/motel/>
- ❖ Three activity sheets:
 - [Monsters 1](#): designed to help children write a description of a monster
http://www.kidsonthenet.com/teachers/downloads/Y3t2objWTmyths-monsters1_as.doc
 - [Monsters 2](#): create a monster
http://www.kidsonthenet.com/teachers/downloads/Y3t2objWTmyths-monsters2_as.doc
 - [Monsters 3](#): designed to help children write a recipe, which links to the kitchen in the Monster Motel:
http://www.kidsonthenet.com/teachers/downloads/Y3t2objWTmyths-monsters3_as.doc

Introduction

This is a very simple and straightforward set of worksheets designed to help children to come up with imaginative portraits of monsters, which may be used as the basis for writing myths or similar types of fiction, and to write disgusting Monster-inspired recipes..

Activities and points for discussion

- ❖ Allow children to explore Monster Motel, finding out what lurks in the various rooms and discovering other children's writing. Encourage children to read as many monster descriptions as possible.
- ❖ Discuss what is good about the individual pieces of writing featured in the Motel – which are the best descriptions and why? Which words and phrases help to conjure a clear picture of a monster? Which writing is unusual, distinctive or funny? Get children to explain which portraits are their favourites and why.
- ❖ Sheets 1 and 2 are essentially the same but allow children to describe two different monsters; the second one could be used to help children develop their portrait with greater detail, increased use of adjectives etc.
- ❖ Allow children to read recipes in the motel kitchen before they write their own recipe on the Monster 3 sheet; this can be linked to work on writing instructions, with methods broken down carefully into steps.

The descriptions and recipes, like any other writing, can be sent to Kids on the Net for inclusion on the site.

Follow Up

- ❖ Children can **plan a monster story** using the monster they have created, possibly in the context of the Motel.
- ❖ Encourage children to **describe the behaviour** of their monsters as well as the appearance (objective 8).
- ❖ Draw pictures or **posters** of the monsters, possibly labelling key features such as claws, fangs, horns etc. Pictures can be scanned and sent in as email attachments with writing to Kids on the Net (info@kidsonthenet.com)
- ❖ The pictures could be developed into **'wanted' posters** featuring monsters wanted for various foul crimes (listed) along with juicy rewards offered and lurid accounts of how dangerous the creature is.
- ❖ The monsters could also be used as subjects for verses of **oral or performance poetry** (objective 11)
- ❖ Look at and **compare various monsters of literature**, particularly those featured in myths, legends and other traditional stories: The Minotaur, dragons, the kraken, sea serpents, unicorns, Godzilla, werewolves, yeti, bigfoot, Loch Ness monster, Cyclops, King Kong etc etc.

Children's writing and scanned pictures can be sent to <http://www.kidsonthenet.com/>