

The Cheerful Cricket

Topic: Work and play

Curriculum link: English, SOSE

Text type: Play script

Reading level: 18

Word count: 519

Vocabulary: busily, carrying, characters, cheerful, cricket, gathering, happily, hungry, hurried, ignored, marching, narrator, scurrying, shared, shivering, squirrels

Possible literacy focus

Understanding the conventions used in a play script.

Understanding the role of a narrator.

Being familiar with issues related to performing a play.

Summary

This is a play about a cricket who sings all summer while other animals collect food for winter. When winter comes, the cricket is looked after by ants who enjoyed his cheerful singing during the warmer weather.

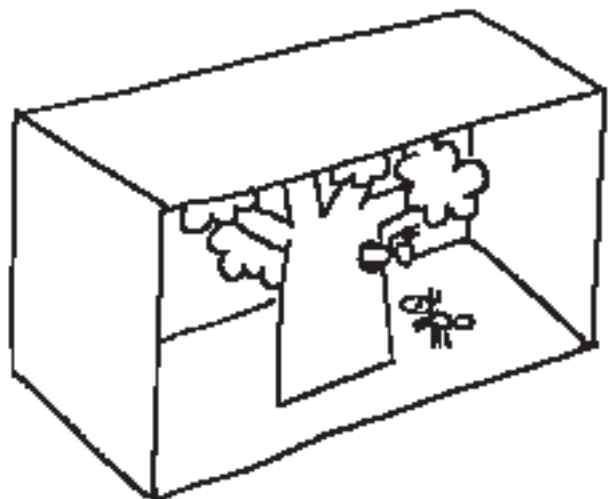
Task Card

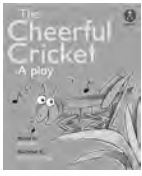
Diorama

You will need:

shoebox, coloured paper, cellophane, crepe paper, pencils, felt-tip pens, match sticks, pipe cleaners, sticks, glue, sticky tape, scissors

1. Think about the animals in the book and where they live.
2. Make a diorama in the shoebox to show where each animal lives.
3. Label the animals.
4. Put your diorama on display in the classroom.





Name _____

Word hunt

Add 'ly' or 'ed' to the rest of these words.

What are the different rules for adding 'ly' and 'ed' to these words?

happy	happily
busy	
grump	
cross	crossly
hurry	hurried
scurry	
smile	smiled
promise	
march	marched
look	
sudden	
excited	

Now look for other words to add to your list.



Name _____

Understanding the characters

Answer the following questions about the characters in *The Cheerful Cricket*.

Why do you think that the animals were so busy carrying food to their homes?

Why did the cricket just sit and sing?

Why were the ants so happy about collecting their food?

Why wouldn't the mice and the squirrels share any of their food with the cricket?

Why did the ants share their food with the cricket?

Do you think that the other animals should have shared their food as well? Why or why not?
