

Story mapping

Literacy

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To understand story structure and planning
- To create a storyboard in preparation for performance.

SKILLS TARGETED

- Storytelling
- Creating a narrative structure.

RESOURCES

- Storyboard template
- Large sheets of paper
- Pens and pencils

SUGGESTED TIME SCALE

- 1-3 sessions for steps 1-3
- 1-2 weeks for step 4

WHAT THE CHILDREN NEED TO KNOW

- The story of *War Horse*, or details of at least one scene from the novel or play

Step 1

Ask the children to read at least one of the following key scenes in *War Horse*

Step 2

Ask the children to work in small groups and choose a scene they would like to work on.

The scenes could be from any part of the story or from their own imaginations. Here are some examples they might like to choose:

- The auction
- The ploughing competition
- Selling Joey
- The first cavalry charge
- The tank
- Joey's long night
- Flipping a coin for Joey
- The death of Topthorn
- Albert and Joey reunited

Step 3

The children work together in their groups using the template, to create a storyboard for the action of their scene

Step 4

The storyboards can be used to create a gallery of events from the story

Step 5

The storyboards can be used to prepare performances of the scenes using live actors or puppets (see Making Shadow Puppets).

SUCCESS CRITERIA

- Children will understand the narrative structure of their chosen scene
- They will be able to map the scene onto the template
- They will be able to add details – eg text – to their storyboards.

