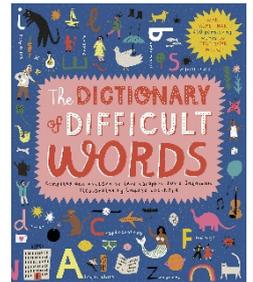


School Library Association Information Book Award Shortlist 2020

8 to 12 years

Dictionary of Difficult Words

Frances Lincoln Children's Books, Jane Solomon, Louise Lockhart
(9781786038104)



The activities below are designed to be used at home with parents, or as gentle links to the school curriculum, easing children back into school life. Simply select activities to suit the children's interests and states of mind. Please feel free to adapt, and we will be pleased to hear of all successes.

Bookmarks)

Bunting) download the templates provided

'Flag a Fact')

Choose your favourite fact from a book, make a flag and then put it in the window for people to see.

Design an alternative cover for this book using any medium you would like.

Discussion Point – if you are virtually meeting in a group, think about the following:

Open the book at a random page and start off a story using one or two of the words. Nominate someone else to continue and they do the same, carrying on your story starter. They in turn nominate someone new until everyone has had a turn and new words have been introduced. Check you know the meaning of these words, or make a note and look them up afterwards. Do you think you will remember these better and manage to use some of them in future?

English/Literacy

Using page 5 can you work out what these words mean?

Genealogy

Hippophile

Lexicographer

Laborious

Neologism

Can you write a story using at least 3 of the words in this book? It can be as ridiculous as you like in an attempt to include more words from the book.

Maths

Often, in espionage and during the war, the alphabet was converted to code to hide the message. It could be a simple code such as A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, etc – Z=26. Or it could be more difficult.

Decipher the following words from the book (using the code above), then look them up to discover their meanings:

4, 18, 15, 12, 12

13, 21, 7, 23, 21, 13, 16

Devise a more complicated code for a sibling or a friend. Send them a message in code and see how long it takes them to work it out. Ask them to reply in a different code and you do the same.

History/Geography

Investigate a worldwide timeline of when different countries started to develop their own alphabets. Compare different countries. Look at some of the more pictorial scripts.

PHSE

Sometimes words are used locally and are unknown in other parts of the country. Do you have any where you live? Do you know older people like grandparents or neighbours who can think of any? If it's safe to ask them, ask them what words they can remember using that perhaps are not used nationwide. Make your own mini dictionary of these words.

Art/DT

Research *Illuminated Scripts*. These were very detailed and took a very long time to do. No copy and paste! Imagine if you made a mistake and had to start again?

Choose a word from the dictionary and illuminate it in the style of the mediaeval monks.

Some sites to explore:

<https://www.bl.uk/british-library-treasures/articles/remarkable-manuscripts>

<https://www.britannica.com/art/illuminated-manuscript>

<https://www.ancient.eu/article/1185/twelve-greatest-illuminated-manuscripts/>

<http://www.mykidsadventures.com/illuminated-manuscript/>

This picture is of the Kelmscott Chaucer produced on a printing press from the British Library's collection -

<https://www.bl.uk/collection-items/the-kelmscott-chaucer>

