



# Create a Character

Ages 4-9

Create a character for a story. Depending on age, children may create a new or existing character for a well-known story or a new story of their own.

## You will need:

A variety of natural materials or scraps from around the house. Modelling clay, string, pipecleaners or glue.

## Starter activity:

Younger children - read a familiar story and discuss their favourite character.

Older children – discuss different story characters and what features they like about them.

## Main activity:

Use natural materials, clay, or junk modelling to make the character. For example, tie sticks together to make 'stick man', decorate an old sock or egg box as a 'very hungry caterpillar' or use pine cones to make a 'billy goat gruff'. Better still, let children use their imagination e.g. sticking twigs and leaves into clay or mud to make a new character.

Discuss what the character is like. Describe its body parts, how it looks, how it moves and its personality.

## Bonus activities:

Make a miniature scene or use the outdoor environment as a play space to tell the story. Let children free play as they develop their ideas.

Once children have created a story with their character, you could film it and share their movie with friends.

