

Topic

St George's Day

Learning outcomes

- Use English creatively
- Practice simple past tense verb forms

Age group

Aged 9–12

Level

A1 +

Time

60 minutes

Materials

Presentation (This can replace Worksheet 1)
Worksheets 1 and 2
Coloured pencils or crayons, plenty of imagination
For the display: ribbon, staples


Introduction

April is the month when St George's Day is celebrated (April 23rd).

In this lesson, pupils read the story of St George and The Dragon and work in pairs or small groups to produce pictures for different parts of the story. Using only their illustrations, they practise their speaking skills by retelling the story.

Procedure

1. Pre-reading (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the presentation, slide 2 or Worksheet 1 to introduce the matching activity. • Elicit one or two answers. Then ask learners to work in pairs or small groups and write the past simple form of the verbs. • Elicit the answers from the learners. Display slide 3 or write the answers on the board. Nominate 3 or 4 learners to write one answer • Explain that all of these verbs appear in a story that they are going to read.
2. Reading for gist (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give each pupil Worksheet 2 • Read the story aloud while pupils listen and follow. • Check pupils understanding by asking comprehension questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — What was the dragon like? — Why did the people from the village give the dragon food? — How did they choose which person to give to the dragon? — What happened when George killed the dragon?
3. Reading out loud to practise pronunciation (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-read the story by going round the room and nominate students to read one or two sentences out loud for the rest of the class. • Drill any difficult pronunciation with the whole group.
4. Producing images for the story (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divide your pupils into 7 different pairs or groups and assign each pair or group one part of the story. Explain that each student in the pair or group should read their part of the story of St George and the Dragon and draw a picture to represent it. • Allocate 5 minutes for this. Monitor and support as needed • Once the time limit has been reached, ask each pair/group to choose their favourite image to represent their part of the story. If there are problems making a decision, help by choosing the biggest picture so that all students in the class can see it on the board.
5. Retelling the story (25 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell each pair or group that they are going to re-tell their part of the story to the rest of the class using <u>only their picture</u> to help them. • Give your students 5 minutes to memorise and practise presenting their part of the story. With pairs, they should divide their text so that each student reads out at least one sentence. With groups of 3, you may find that one student doesn't have a sentence to re-tell. In this case, the 2 students whose pictures weren't chosen should read.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Either stick the chosen pictures for each part of the story to the board at the front of the classroom, or in different parts of the room. • If you have the space and a small number of students, ask them to form a large semi-circle around the room. Students from each pair or group read out the story in order using the images to help them.
6. Optional extension - classroom display	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask your students to create their own picture book for the whole story. • If you have internet access in the classroom, show your students this video in which they can see how to make a simple 8-page book from a single piece of paper. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21qi9ZcQVto • If you don't have Internet access demonstrate the technique and check all learners have followed your instructions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your students can make their picture books using this model or they can write their story on separate pieces of paper, which can be stapled into a book. • Make a display of the pupils' books. An attractive display can be made by stapling the centre of each book to a length of coloured ribbon – see image below.  <p>Photo courtesy of Rowan Hardman</p>

Contributed by

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