



Beacon Media

Supporting Christian schooling worldwide

Making books

Classroom topics

- The Beacon Media curriculum uses Science, Social Studies and Health topics in a thematic way.
- Only one topic is studied in the classroom at a time.
- It may be a Science topic, a Social Studies topic, or a health topic.
- Beacon Media **Big Books** and **Little Books** are tools to create topic-based reading resources.

Example of Big Book



Butterflies

How to make a Big Book

Step 1

Print out the pages of the Big Book. Print out enough for one page per child.

If there are 16 pages in the book, that will be enough for 16 children.

If you don't have a printer, copy by hand the sentences, one per page, (landscape).

How to make a Big Book

Step 2

Have the students sitting on the floor, close enough to read the print on the Big Book pages.

Take the first page and say, “We are going to make a book about Butterflies. Who would like to make a drawing for the cover page?”

Select one child. That child goes to their table and starts drawing.

How to make a Big Book

- Show the second page. Read the sentence, then ask the children to read it with you.
- Ask, “Who would like to draw a picture for this page?”
- Select the child, then ask the class, “What could X draw on her page? Suggestions are made.
- This child then goes to her table and starts drawing
- Continue this process until all pages are given out.

How to make a Big Book

- Walk around the room encouraging the children to make large, colourful drawings, and tell them not to draw over the text.
- They may need to be reminded about what they are to draw, to match the information on their page.
- When all drawings are completed, collate the drawings and staple down the left hand side.
- Reinforce the cover if possible.

The Big Book is a shared book

- The completed book can hang on a string along the wall, as part of a class collection, that children can select from and read.
- The class teacher can also use the Big Books for reading practice throughout the day, or to introduce a literacy lesson.
- This book stays at school and is not taken home.

How to make a Small Book

- The small book has the same text as the Big Book, but 4 frames per page (landscape).
- Once the children are familiar with reading the Big Book, they can create their own individual small books.
- These can be taken home, and read with their family.

The picture collection

- Each Big Book has a picture collection on the last page.
- This is a drawing guide for the children, as there are many things in the books that children may not have seen before, e.g. a butterfly cocoon.
- The teacher can enlarge these drawings on a large sheet of paper and place it on the wall or on an easel for children to copy from and use appropriately in their drawings

Making Books



Topics of interest

- Children can make their own books by drawing pictures on a topic of interest.
- Children can then think of a sentence to go with their drawing.
- A sentence is one an *idea*.

Sentence formation

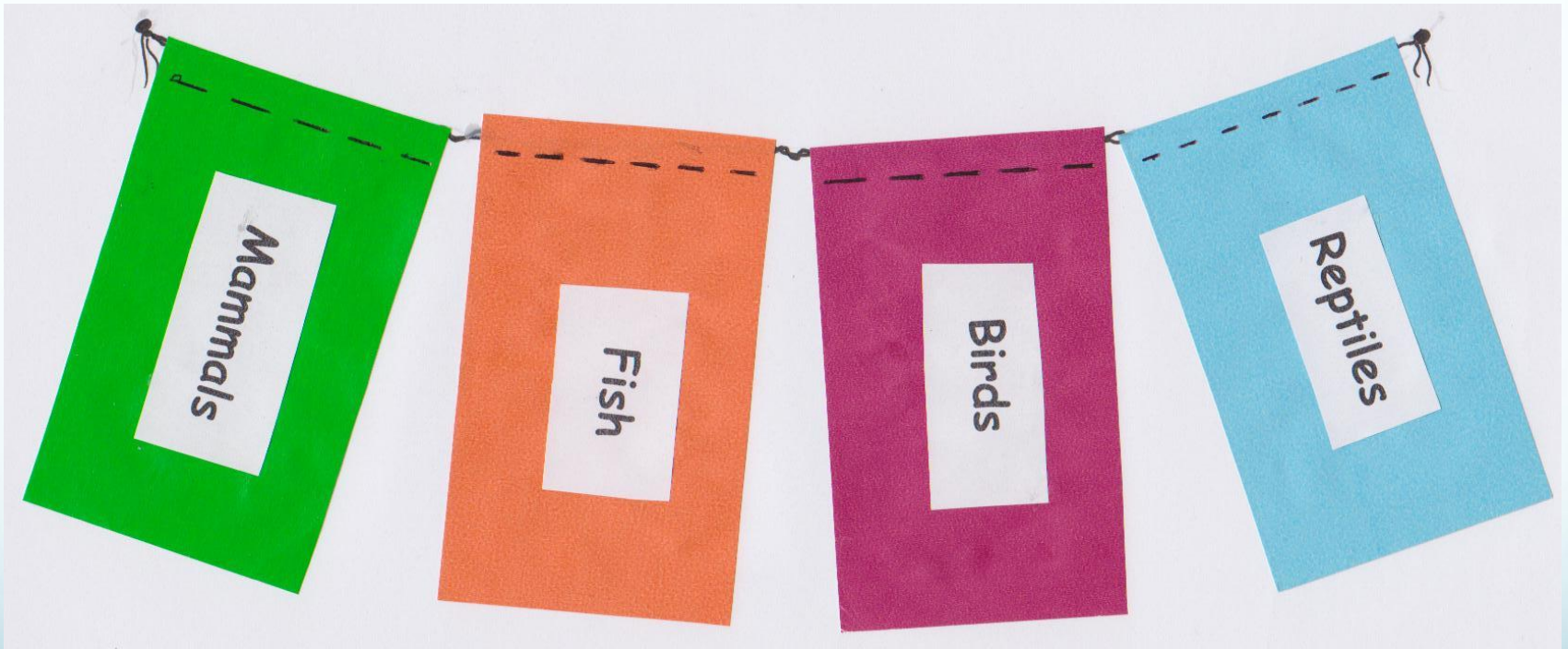
Ask, “What would you like to say about your drawing?”
or “Can you make up a sentence about your drawing?”

The child says it out loud and together you write their sentence under the drawing.



Lots of interesting creatures live in the sea.

Topics of interest



Retelling stories

- Traditional tales
- Bible stories
- Other true stories
- stories that community members have shared

Retelling stories

Example: The Little Red Hen

1. The Little Red Hen (cover)
2. The little red hen wants to make some food.
3. The dog will not help.
4. The cat will not help.
5. The pig will not help.
6. Will the chicks help? Yes they will.



7. The little red hen and the chicks make the food.
8. The little red hen and the chicks eat the food.
9. The dog will not get any.
10. The cat will not get any.
11. The pig will not get any.
12. They did not help to make the food.



Books about themselves



Good activity for beginners

Books about themselves

One sheet of paper per idea (landscape format)

Examples of sentence beginnings:

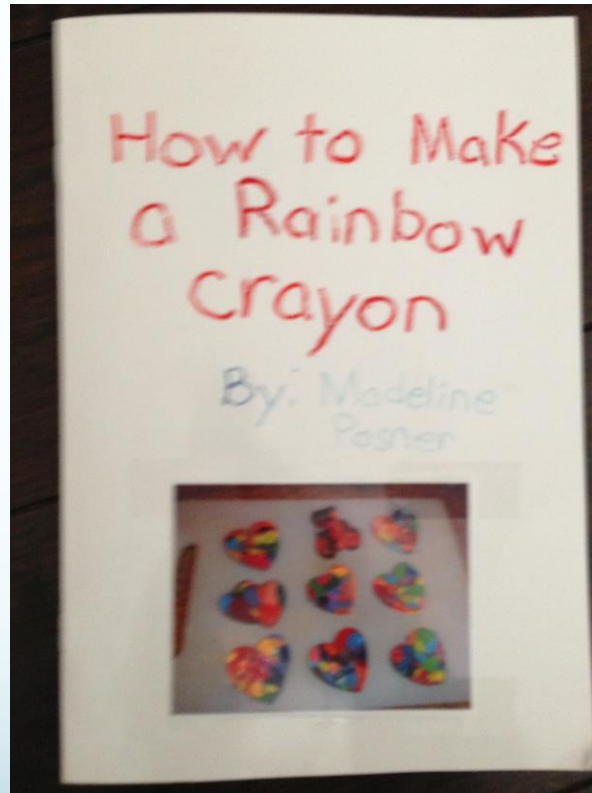
- I like to go
- On Saturday I like to
- I like to eat
- My best friend
- I went to

Made up stories

- Children can present their stories in the form of illustrated books.



Writing about an activity





Use children's art work



Pop-up books

