



LET US HAVE YOUR
ATTENTION PLEASE.
THIS IS A CALL FOR ALL
CHILDREN WITH HIDDEN
MAGICAL POWERS...

Whether you're a Witch in Year 5, a Healer in Year 6, a Warrior, a Hero, or a Teacher, it's time to go on an adventure to *Dragon's Green*, a brand new children's book from magical author Scarlett Thomas!

This resource sheet provides material for four cross-curricular KS2 lessons to get children excited about new children's book *Dragon's Green*, coming out in paperback this September. The material can be delivered in sequence as a small scheme of work or broken up into isolated lessons. It is suitable for children aged 9-12 years but can be adapted for any age or ability.





LESSON 1:

THE TUSITALA SCHOOL FOR THE GIFTED, TROUBLED AND STRANGE

In *Dragon's Green*, Effie lives in a Realworld where she goes to the Tusitala School for the Gifted, Troubled and Strange. Read Chapter 1 of the book to find out all about it!

OBJECTIVE: To create a piece of descriptive writing based on your school

SUBJECTS: Literacy, PSHE

LEAD-IN QUESTIONS

- What do the words 'gifted', 'troubled' and 'strange' mean?
- What impression do you get of the school from these words?
- Why might it be a bad thing to have categories or 'types' of children in a school?

TASK 1

In the first chapter of *Dragon's Green*, Effie's school is described as having 'twisted grey spires, leaky roofs' and a 'long, noble history.' Which words stand out to you in this description? Can you label the nouns and adjectives?

TASK 2

Split the task into five groups and allocate one of the words below to each group.

Take a close look at the keyword that your group has been given. What does it make you think of? How does it make you feel? As a group, present your keyword and its connotations back to the class.

TWISTED

SPIRES

LEAKY

GREY

NOBLE

TASK 3

In the space below, write a few sentences to describe your own Magical School. Try to use powerful vocabulary including nouns and adjectives like the ones from Task 2!



-DRAGON'S-
GREEN



SCARLETT
THOMAS

TWISTED
SPIRES
LEAKY
GREY
NOBLE





LESSON 2: FRIENDSHIP

In *Dragon's Green*, Effie isn't alone on her adventures. She is joined by her four friends: Maximilian, Wolf, Lexy and Raven – all of whom have different magical powers.

OBJECTIVE: To understand the importance of friendship and to identify the strengths of group members

SUBJECTS: PSHE

LEAD-IN TASK

- Finish the sentence: FRIENDSHIP IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE...

TASK 1

In your groups from Lesson 1, come up with five 'Friendship Rules'.

TASK 2

In *Dragon's Green*, each friend has a different power. Can you match each friend to the right power?

EFFIE
MAXIMILIAN
WOLF
LEXY
RAVEN

WITCH
WARRIOR
HEALER
TRUE HERO
SCHOLAR

TASK 3

In your groups, you need to decide which special quality each of your teammates has. Are there any Healers or Scholars? Witches or Warriors? You don't have to use the ones listed here, make up as many as you like!





OUR FRIENDSHIP RULES

1

2

3

4

5





LESSON 3: MAGICAL BOONS

OBJECTIVE: To create a design for your own magical Boon that reflects your identity
SUBJECTS: Art & Design, Literacy, PSHE

- Spectacles of Knowledge
- Ring of the True Hero
- Healing Crystal
- Wonde



LEAD-IN TASK

- What does the word IDENTITY mean? Why is it important?

TASK 1

In the world of *Dragon's Green*, magical objects called 'Boons' are matched to people with unique magical qualities. For example:

The Sword of Orphennyus → Warrior

Can you match the others to the characters from Lesson 2? Why don't you have a go at drawing them?

TASK 2

Make a list of things that reflect your identity. They can be objects, colours, activities, hobbies or feelings.

TASK 3

Use your list from Task 2 to draw your own magical Boon. What would it look like? What would it tell us about you?



-DRAGON'S-
GREEN



SCARLETT
THOMAS

DRAW YOUR OWN MAGICAL BOON



CANON GATE



LESSON 4: RIDDLES AND PROBLEM-SOLVING

OBJECTIVE: To invent a riddle in order to test your classmates

SUBJECTS: Mathematics, Literacy

LEAD-IN QUESTION

- What is a riddle? In what sort of World would you have to solve a riddle?

TASK 1

Look at the following two riddles from *Dragon's Green*. Effie must solve these riddles to get out of a sticky situation. Can you have a go?

Riddle 1:

Imagine a man throws a ball a short distance, and then the ball reverses direction and travels back to the man. The ball does not bounce off any wall or other object, nor is it attached to any string or material. Without magic, how does this occur?

Riddle 2:

There is a creature that walks on four legs in the morning, two legs at noon, and three legs in the evening. What is its name?

To find the answers, all you have to do is read the book!

TASK 2

It's time to create your own riddle! Think of a situation or an object and create a clue for your classmates. Can anyone get it? Share your riddles with us on Twitter @canongatebooks!



-DRAGON'S-
GREEN



SCARLETT
THOMAS

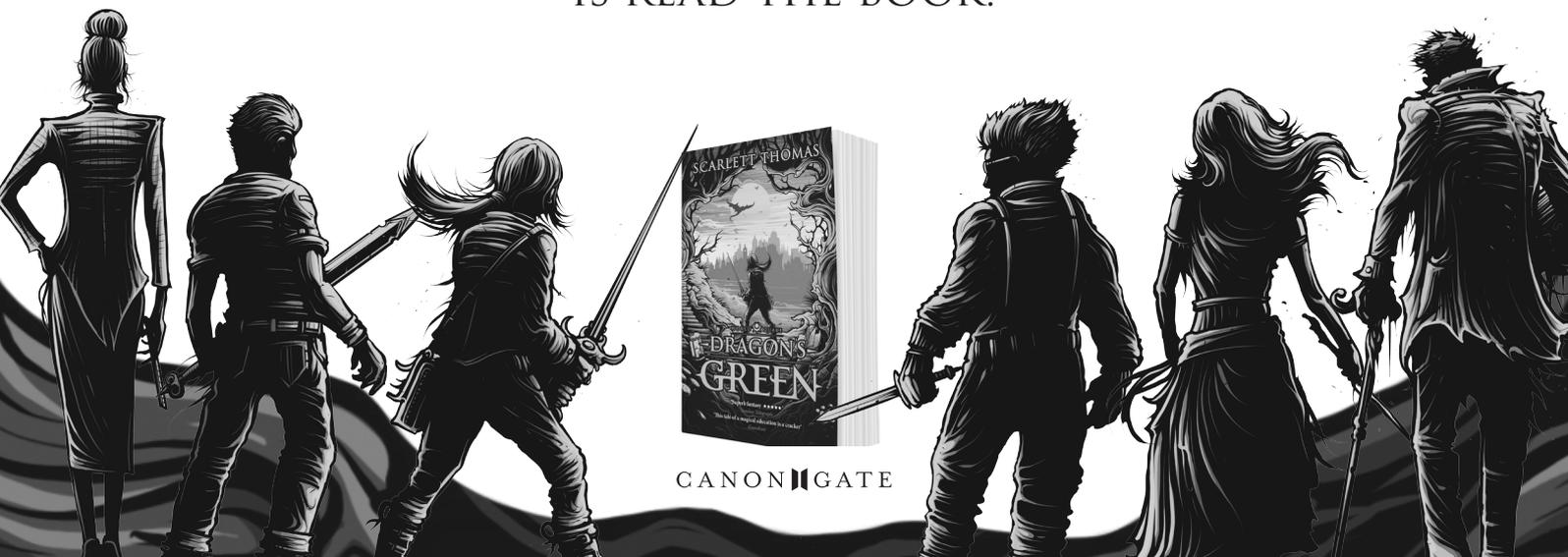
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CANON GATE



LESSON 5: CASTING A SPELL

OBJECTIVE: To create a spell that would help someone in need

SUBJECTS: PSHE, Literacy

LEAD-IN TASK

- Make a list of people who are in need across the world. If you could set up a charity, who would you most like to help?

TASK 1

In the magical Otherworld of the book, there are several spells working at the same time. Later in the story, when Maximilian is trying to cast his own spell, he has to compete with lots of others:

- Griffin Truelove's spell to protect his library of books and get them to Effie
- Maximilian's mother's spell for her son to lead a normal, 'unmagical' life
- A farmer's spell for rain for his crops
- Raven's spell wishing for friendship

Can you organise these spells from the most important to the least? Why do you think each of these people wishes for these things? What is their motive? Is it for the good of themselves or for others?

TASK 2

Now it's time to come up with your own spell. If you could wish for something would it be for yourself or for others? Let everyone know your motivation!





When you've finished, don't forget to share your work with us on Twitter **@canongatebooks** - we'd love to hear from you!

Look out for the author of *Dragon's Green*, Scarlett Thomas, on her upcoming schools tour. And make sure you grab your copy of the paperback!

HAPPY READING, AND DON'T STOP UNLOCKING THOSE MAGICAL WORLDS...

YOU CAN FIND OUT WHETHER YOU'RE A WARRIOR OR A HERO, HEALER OR WITCH AT WORLDQUAKE.CO.UK - CHECK IT OUT!

