

English w.c. 18.5.20

Hopefully you have had the chance to practice retelling the Night Pirates story several times, whether that is acting it out with puppets or using a story map and will now feel much more familiar with the main parts of the story. This week we will be writing our own versions of the story. I have included a 'boxed up' version of the story with a few key words as prompts for each part of the story. Each day work with your child to write sentences to retell some of the story so that by Friday, your child will have retold the full story. They can, if they want, make small changes to the story - I have already seen this happening in some of the role play videos that have been sent in. I don't expect children to retell the original story word for word - we are aiming for a simpler version in the children's own words.

The amount each child will write very much depends on their individual ability, however, I would expect every child to be able to write a minimum of one sentence a day, when working with an adult, and most should be able to write several. That said, go for quality over quantity! Have common exception and tricky word mats to hand as well as phoneme mats for children to refer to. Encourage your child to say what sentence they want to write (not too long - many children get carried away and then can't remember what they want to put). Ask them to repeat it a couple of times to help them remember it and encourage them to keep re-reading what they are writing as they go along to check it is what they want to write and makes sense. This is an important skill and well worth learning early as children often say what they want it to say rather than what they have actually written and that can make it difficult for them to pick up errors! When children check their writing they need to make sure they use:

- Capital letters to begin sentences and for names
- Finger spaces between words
- Full stops, exclamation marks or question marks to end sentences as appropriate
- Some adjectives - eg dark, brave, tired

I have uploaded some pirate writing paper onto [Classdojo](#) which you may wish to use. There are many other pirate page borders on [Twinkl](#) too, if you want to choose a different one.



