

February Challenge: Julia Donaldson

We're pretty sure you'll all have heard of at least one of the fantastic story books created by the brilliant Julia Donaldson? Which is your favourite? The Gruffalo? A Squash and a Squeeze perhaps? Maybe even Room on the Broom? We love them all! If you haven't yet read them, why not order them from Sheffield Libraries, so you can 'click and collect' to borrow and read them? If you're not yet a Sheffield library member, follow this link here: <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/libraries-archives/join-the-library.html> It's FREE to join, and also gives you access to thousands more ebooks, emagazines, etc. that you can download for free!

You will need:

- Paper
- Pencil
- Colouring pens/pencils

But this challenge is a little bit special. Julia Donaldson has worked with the amazing illustrator Axel Scheffler to bring us some unique, special edition illustrated rhymes all relating to the Coronavirus – lockdown, learning at home and even the vaccine are all examples of how Julia Donaldson has turned a current situation into a rhyme. We've included some as examples on the next page. We'd love for you to have a go at making up your own rhymes, using famous characters from a book. You can use Julia Donaldson's characters or others from one of your own favourites books – it's up to you.

Step 1: Decide which book character you want to use for your rhyme.

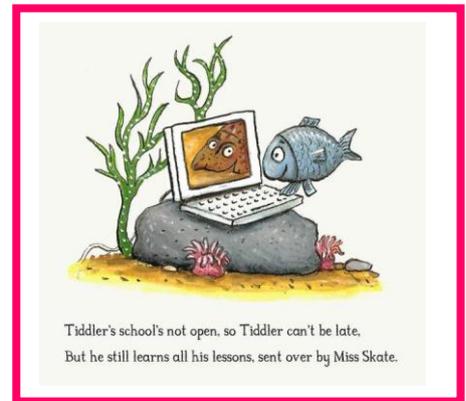
Step 2: Think about something Which has changed for you over the last year. Perhaps it's learning at home, or learning in a bubble at school. Maybe it's having to stay at home. How about having to catch up with friends on Zoom? How about wearing a face covering? But it could also be something about spending more time with family? Have you been playing more games together? Have you found this fun? Or, could your rhyme be about having to spend more time stuck indoors? It's up to you!

Step 3: Try and write some key words down that are linked to your idea. For example, for 'staying at home', your words might be 'bored', 'crazy', 'cook', 'games', 'learn', 'Zoom', 'Google', 'classroom', 'friends', 'walls', 'inside', etc.

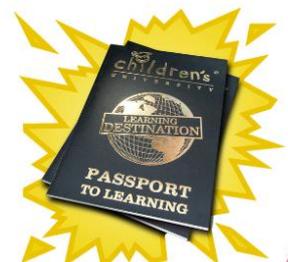
Step 4: Try and write a short sentence (about a maximum of 10 words) about your subject. Next, try and write another sentence which rhymes with the end of the first one. Don't worry if you can't do it straight away. You might need to play around with the words a little until you get some to rhyme together. Don't worry if you can't get them to rhyme though, it's not essential! An example might be...

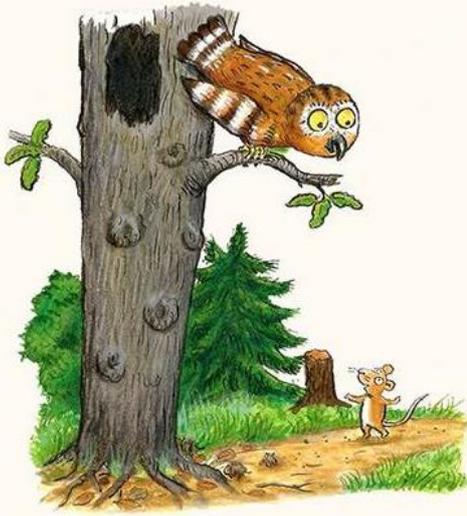
'The Gruffalo's Child laid bored on his bed. 'I know', he thought, 'I'll bake banana bread'!

Step 5: Can you write your sentences neatly on a piece of paper? Perhaps you could even try and draw your character doing something to match your sentence?



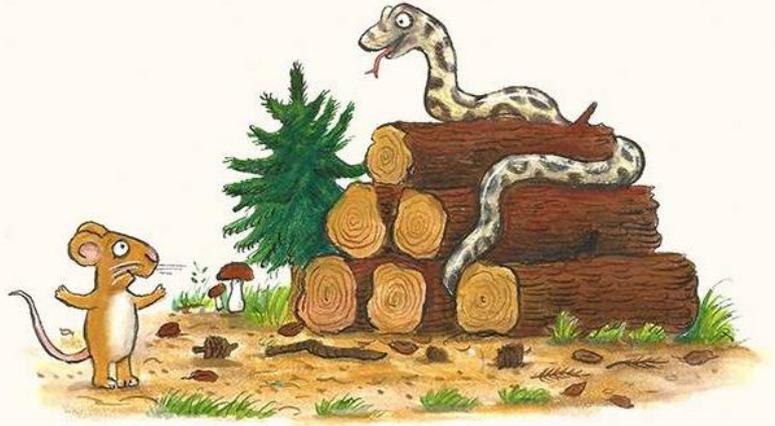
If you attend a Sheffield school, you can collect **1 CU credit** for completing this task. To claim your credits, please complete and return a Sheffield CU Home Learning Challenge Reflection Diary which can be found here: <https://bit.ly/SCUHomeLearningReflectionDiary> Once you have completed all the challenges, email your reflection diary along with evidence of your completed activities to cu@sheffield.gov.uk (photos/videos etc.) and we'll award CU credits. We can't wait to see your work!





"Where are you going to, little brown mouse?
Come and have tea in my treetop house."
"But I don't want a fine, and your tree might be
Outside of my exercise boundary."

"Where are you going to, little brown mouse?
Come for a feast in our logpile house."

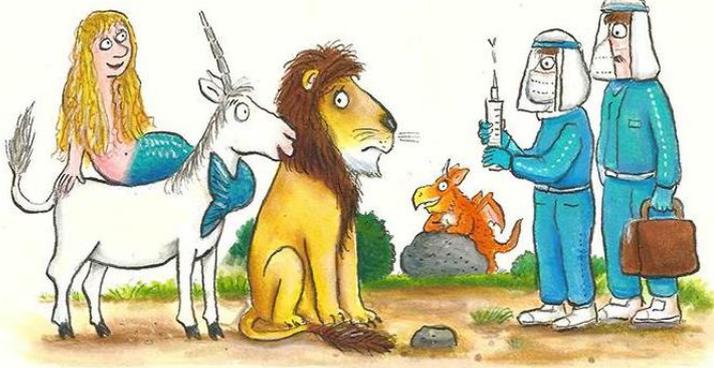


"I wish I could visit your house of sticks
But sadly, two households may not mix."

Finding your mum was a whole lot of trouble.
How can you be bored with your family bubble?



Iggety, ziggety, zaggety, ZOOM -
I wish there was somebody real in my room.



Here come the Flying Doctors - joy and jubilation!
The mermaid, lion and unicorn will get the vaccination.

For more ideas, have a look at the other special edition images...

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2021/january/julia-donaldson-and-axel-scheffler-brighten-lockdown-with-more-new-coronavirus-pictures/>

Artwork and verses © Axel Scheffler
and Julia Donaldson