

Activities:

Adapt a favourite story

Try out the process of adaptation

Introduction

A film adaptation of a book usually tries to stay as true to the book as possible. The plot, characters, settings etc are only changed if they have to be in order to make the film. For example some books are very long so bits of the story have to be cut out as there is often only time to have the most important events included in a film.

Activity

1. Choose a book or poem you really like or one that you think would work well as a film. If it is a long book with a lot of text, why not have a go at just adapting the story opening?
2. Photocopy the pages of the book you are adapting or print your story from the internet.
3. Highlight the characters, setting and parts of the plot you are going to keep. Cross out the parts that you are not going to use.
4. Highlight any good bits of speech that you could use as dialogue in your script.
5. Have a go at writing a short script, use the Script download in the Film Academy or some other example scripts to help you set out the dialogue, action and directions.



You will need:

Access to a photocopier

or

a printout of a story from the internet

Highlighters

Film Academy Script download

Name.....



Activities:

Remember: When you are adapting a well-known story, the audience will already have ideas about the characters and setting, so when you are planning how the story will look as a film stick to what you think about and imagine when you read the story.

What next?

When you have written your script, you might want to think about the following:

Characters:

Which actors would you cast in the main roles?

What sort of person would you be looking for?

Setting:

Where would you film and what sort of background would you like?

What time of day would it be?

Props and Costumes:

What sorts of props and costumes would be needed in the scene?

Sound and Music:

What style of music would you need to create?

Would you need any sound effects?

