



Picture News

In the Early Years

Speaking and Listening

EYFS Framework: Children are confident to speak in a familiar group. Children talk about past events in their own lives and in the lives of family members.

Look at the Picture News poster: What can you see? What can you tell me about these books? Do you think they are just like the books we have in the classroom? How are they different? I wonder why this person is wearing gloves to hold this book! Tell the children these books are kept in a university library. They are very old and were handwritten by a man named Charles Darwin a very long time ago. Charles Darwin was a famous scientist. *Think about: What is a scientist? What sort of things do you think a scientist might do?*

In his work, Charles Darwin explored animals and people and he wrote down all his thoughts in these books. It has been in the news that two of his books, that are worth millions of pounds, have gone missing and they are now thought to have been stolen! Lots of people are sad that these books have gone missing, but they are determined that they will find them and get them put back where they belong!

Think about: What do you think people could do to help find the books? Do you think they have been stolen or do you think they were lost?

Question: Do special things help us to remember?

People want to make sure that Charles Darwin's books are returned because they are very important to help us remember his work. Lots of people like to keep special things to help us remember something or someone.

Look at the **EY Resource**, which shows some things that people might have that could be extra special to them because they help them to remember something or someone.

Think about: Do you have anything special? What is it? Does it help you to remember something? What does it help you to remember?

Police station: Can you take on the role of a police officer and act out investigating the missing books?

EYFS Framework: Uses language to recreate roles and experiences in play situations.

Think about: I wonder if any crimes are going to get reported! What's happened? What are you going to do about it? Do you need anyone to help you? Who do you think did it? I wonder how you're going to solve the crime!

Resources: Police dressing up clothes, police hats, desk or table, play laptop, telephone, walkie talkies, police officer badges, key word vocabulary cards, police report (see EY Additional Resource 1 and writing task below), clipboard, pens

Writing: Can you fill in a police report to say what is missing and where it has been found?

EYFS Framework: Gives meaning to marks they make as they draw, write and paint. Uses some clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning, representing some sounds correctly and in sequence.

Discuss that when someone reports a crime (something bad that has happened) to the police, the police officer must fill out a report by writing down what has happened. Model completing a police report (see EY Additional Resource 1).

Think about: What crime can we write that happened at the university library? Can you pretend to be the police officer who solved the crime? Where were the books found? Who took them?

Resources: Police report proforma (see EY Additional Resource 1), clipboard, pens, police role-play area

Maths: Can you play an addition memory game by remembering where the different cards are?

EYFS Framework: In practical activities and discussion, beginning to use the vocabulary involved in adding.

Teach the children to play the game of matching pairs (see EY Additional Resource 2 for cards and instructions).

Think about: Which two cards will you turn over? Can you work out the addition? Is the other card the answer? How do you know? Can you remember where you have seen the answer before?

Resources: Matching pairs game (see EY Additional Resource 2)

Playdough: Can you explore different bugs by making insect fossils?

EYFS Framework: Handles objects and malleable materials safely and with increasing control.

Recap on this week's news story about Charles Darwin. Charles Darwin was a scientist who liked to explore animals and fossils. Model how to roll out the playdough and press a plastic bug into the playdough. Lift the bug out and look at the print that has been left behind.

Think about: What are fossils? Can you explore making your own fossils using different insects? What can you see? What do you like about the prints? Can you look at two different prints? How are they the same? How are they different?

Resources: playdough, rolling pins, plastic bugs, tweezers, magnifiers