

EDUCATIONAL NOTES FOR KS2
TEACHERS & LIBRARIANS

DRAGON REALM

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INTRODUCTION

Books: *Dragon Mountain* and *Dragon Legend*

Series: *Dragon Realm*

Suitable for: Ages 9+

Explore themes of: Dragons, Myths and Legends, Friendship and Inclusivity

Subject Checklist: Reading, Writing, Art, Design & Technology, PSHE, Geography, History

CONTENTS

- **MEET THE DRAGONS** **Pages 3–4**
Objectives: Find information from the books about the four dragons; create a ‘Dragon Ratings Card’ for each dragon.

- **CREATING A NEW DRAGON** **Page 5**
Objectives: Create an illustration and biography of a new dragon character for the series.

- **FRIENDSHIP & INCLUSIVITY** **Pages 6–7**
Objectives: Reflect on the themes of friendship and teamwork in the series; create a ‘Teamwork Storyboard’.

- **MYTHS AND LEGENDS** **Pages 8–9**
Objectives: Reflect on how features of Myths and Legends are incorporated in the series; plan a Myth or Legend.

- **SERIES REVIEW** **Pages 10–12**
Objectives: Create a book cover for the third book in the series; write a review of the series.

ABOUT THE DRAGON REALM SERIES

BOOK #1 *Dragon Mountain*

Deep within the mountain, a great creature stirred in its sleep. Its eyes rolled back in its head, and its wings jerked wide open...

When 12-year-old Billy Chan finds out his parents are sending him to a summer camp in middle-of-nowhere China he doesn't know what to expect. There he meets fellow campers Dylan, Charlotte and Ling-Fei and together they stumble upon an age-old secret: four powerful warrior dragons, hidden deep within the mountain behind the camp. They have been trapped since an epic battle with the Dragon of Death and need the children's help to set them free before terrible evil is unleashed on the earth. Billy and his friends must set off on a dangerous adventure that will take them to the heart of the Dragon Realm. But can they save the dragon and human worlds from destruction?



BOOK #2 *Dragon Legend*

Billy Chan and his friends are not having a very relaxing summer. Their friend, Dylan, has been kidnapped by the evil Dragon of Death and it's up to them to travel through time, back to the dangerous Dragon Realm, in order to save him. Luckily they have their own dragons on side, but they'll need to collect eight magical pearls if they're to amass enough power to destroy the Dragon of Death and her followers for good. So begins an epic quest that will take them to the depths of the Frozen Wasteland and the imperial palaces of Ancient China. But can good triumph evil...?



MEET THE DRAGONS

READING QUESTIONS: After reading Chapter 12 of ‘*Dragon Mountain*’, where we are first introduced to the dragons!

- What is the atmosphere inside the mountain? How does it create tension? *Pages 91–92*
- How does Billy feel? How do you know?
- What different sounds are included in Chapter 12 to help the reader picture the scene?
- How many dragons are described in the scene? How are the dragons different?
- How do Billy and his friends react when they see the dragons? Give examples for each character.

ACTIVITY: THE FOUR DRAGONS!

Re-read Chapter 12 of *Dragon Mountain* and find quotes to describe each of the four dragons listed below. If you can, find information about each dragon’s length, appearance, personality, intelligence and power. You might want to include information from other chapters of the books to complete this exercise.

DRAGON	INFORMATION
XING	
BUTTONS	
TANK	
SPARK	

ACTIVITY: DRAGON RATINGS CARDS

Create 4 'DRAGON RATINGS CARDS' using your research. For each dragon, draw a picture of them and write their name in the top box. Then, rate them in each category out of 10, with 1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest. Which is your overall favourite?



DRAGON =

Size =
Personality =
Appearance =
Intelligence =
Power =
Bonus:

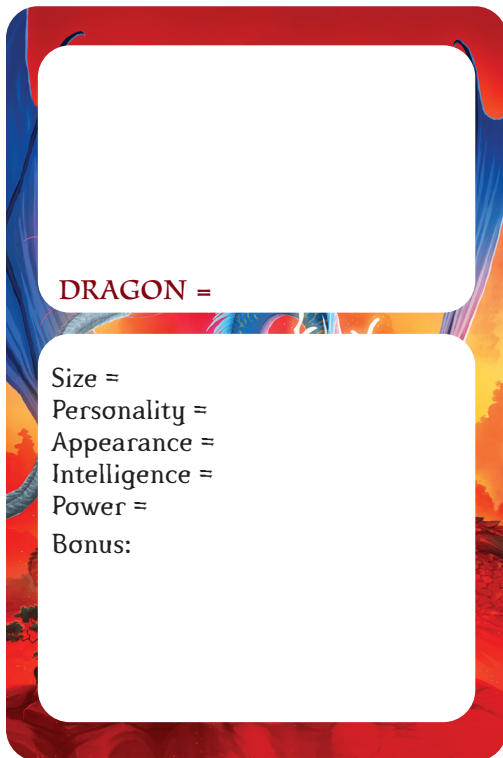
This is a template for a dragon ratings card. It features a red border with a dragon illustration in the background. The card is divided into two white rounded rectangular sections. The top section is for the dragon's name, and the bottom section is for ratings in various categories.



DRAGON =

Size =
Personality =
Appearance =
Intelligence =
Power =
Bonus:

This is a template for a dragon ratings card, identical to the first one.



DRAGON =

Size =
Personality =
Appearance =
Intelligence =
Power =
Bonus:

This is a template for a dragon ratings card, identical to the first one.



DRAGON =

Size =
Personality =
Appearance =
Intelligence =
Power =
Bonus:

This is a template for a dragon ratings card, identical to the first one.

ACTIVITY: DRAGON BIOGRAPHY

Create a new dragon for the series! Complete the 'Dragon Biography' below!

DRAWING OF MY DRAGON

DESCRIPTIVE WORDS

Write down any adjectives or adverbs
to describe your dragon

NAME:

SIZE:

PERSONALITY:

APPEARANCE:

INTELLIGENCE:

POWER:

FRIENDSHIP AND TEAMWORK

READING QUESTIONS: After reading Chapter 3 of ‘*Dragon Mountain*’

- Which new characters are we introduced to in Chapter 3? How do you think they might be important?
- What is Charlotte’s personality like, judging from how she introduces herself? *Pages 16–17*
- How do Billy and Dylan react to Charlotte? What can you tell about Dylan’s personality?
- What different countries are the children at Camp Dragon from? Can you mark them on a map?
- What can you tell about Liu Ling-Fei from how she is introduced? *Page 20*

ACTIVITY: TEAMWORK STORYBOARD

- First, write down all the differences between the four friends: Billy, Dylan, Charlotte and Liu Ling-Fei. Think about where they’re from, their personalities and the way they express themselves. How do these differences come together to create a great TEAM?
- Think of your own friends or friendship groups – how are each of you different? Why is this something to celebrate?
- Thinking back over all the examples of togetherness and friendship in the story, try to pick one that you think is the greatest example of teamwork – how do the characters use their different skills to achieve a common goal?
- Create a storyboard for this significant scene making it as colourful and detailed as possible. Beneath each drawing, write a line or two describing what is taking place and how this teamwork inspires you.

TEAMWORK STORYBOARD

1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.

MYTHS AND LEGENDS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What do you know about China? Have you ever been there?
2. How does Billy feel about being in China? Can you mark Billy's journey from California to China on a map?
3. What do the words 'Myth' and 'Legend' mean?
4. Can you think of other examples of Myths or Legends that you have read about or heard of? Give examples.
5. What do these Myths or Legends have in common? Do any of them involve magic?

ACTIVITY: CREATING A MYTH OR A LEGEND

- Can you think of any Myths and Legends that you've already studied? What is the difference between a Myth and a Legend?
- Do you know any Myths and Legends from different cultures? Why do you think these stories survive through history?
- Discuss your favourite mythical elements in the *Dragon Realm* series. How do these stories resemble Myths or Legends?
- Use the worksheet on the next page to plot the *Dragon Realm* series so far. Who is the hero of the story? Which characters support the hero or get in the way? What does the hero want?
- Then, complete the sheet again but this time with your own ideas for a new Myth or Legend!

PLANNING A MYTH OR A LEGEND BY

<p>Who is the hero of the story? What do they look like? How would you describe them?</p>	
<p>Where does the story take place? What is it like? Is it in a mythical place?</p>	
<p>When does the story take place? Are there any historical elements?</p>	
<p>Who else is in the story? Does the hero have any friends or enemies? Are there any mythical beasts?</p>	
<p>What does the hero seek or want? What challenges do they face?</p>	
<p>What keeps the hero going? Who are they helping? Why do they want something?</p>	
<p>What magic is in the story? Is it good or bad? Is it a living thing or an object?</p>	
<p>How does your story end? Is it a happy ending? Does the hero get what they want?</p>	

SERIES REVIEW



Look over the covers of Books 1–2 in the *Dragon Realm* series; can you spot some similarities/differences between them?

SIMILARITY 1 =

SIMILARITY 2 =

SIMILARITY 3 =

DIFFERENCE 1 =

DIFFERENCE 2 =

DIFFERENCE 3 =

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What have you enjoyed about the series?
2. Do you think there will be a third book in the series?
3. What predictions can you make about the story in a possible third book?
4. If you were to create a film trailer for the series, what would it be like?
5. Would you recommend this series to a friend? Why or why not?

ACTIVITY: DESIGN A BOOK COVER

Decide which book cover in the series is your favourite and discuss why with a friend or family member. Imagine that you have been asked to come up with a cover and title for a new book in the *Dragon Realm* series and design it. How can you give clues to the reader about the next story?



ACTIVITY: SERIES REVIEW

Write a short review of your favourite book in the series or of the series as a whole. Share your review with a friend or someone at home who hasn't read the books yet. Then they too can enjoy the magical adventures of Billy and his friends!

What the book/series is about:

My favourite dragon / character in the book/series:

What I enjoyed about the book/series:

What I think others my age would enjoy: