

Jack's Jumper

Themes

Family



Siblings

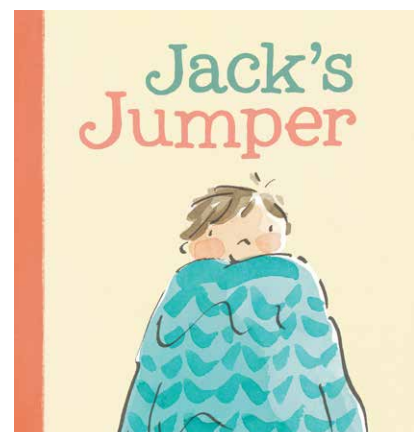


Upcycling



Exploring the Story

Read the first few pages of the story to the children and then stop. Ask them to think about why they think Jack has such a large jumper. Where do they think he would have gotten it from? Why do they think he is dressing up and playing with it so much? After you have discussed this with the class, continue reading the story to the group.



Once you've finished the story, discuss with the children why Paul left. Where do they think he went and what do they think is making him so busy? Look closely at the illustrations for clues, is Paul somewhere close or far away? How do they know? Do the clues help the children to understand why Jack is so attached to Paul's old jumper?

Discuss the idea of comfort items with the children. Do they have a special item that brings them comfort? It might be a toy or a blanket or a piece of clothing. Can they remember who gave them the item? How does the item make them feel?

When Paul takes the unravelled jumper and goes into his room, what did the children think he was doing? Did they expect him to make something with all that wool? Did they expect him to make so *many* wonderful things – a new jumper, a toy, a scarf, some gloves, a hat AND a cat bed for the cat and her kittens?

Knitting is a skill that takes practise and patience to learn, but as we can see from the story it can help to create many wonderful items, from clothing to toys to blankets and more. Ask the children if they have any knitted items at home. Discuss if these items were purchased from a store or if someone made them as a special gift. Ask if any of the children have learnt to knit or if they know anyone who knits. What kinds of things do they like to make?

Activities

Introduction to Knitting

Use the library resources and/or online resources to get an introduction to French knitting. Gather the materials required (paddle pop sticks, toilet paper rolls, washi or masking tape, glue and patterned paper for decorating) and have the children make their own hand-held French knitting loom. Once they have made and decorated their looms, allow them to choose some wool and take them through the step-by-step process of how to begin knitting. There are lots of ideas online for things to make out of the French knitting lengths once they're complete.

Perfect Postcards

Paul sends Jack postcards of "*castles, colourful houses, and pastries filled with custard*". Imagine someone in your household has moved away. One way to keep in touch might be to send them a postcard like Paul sends to Jack. Have a think about what might make that person really happy and using the template provided, design your own postcard to send them.

Polaroid Pictures

The end pages show lots of polaroid photographs of Jack and Paul spending time together. Imagine spending the whole day with someone you love doing all the things you love. Would you flip pancakes? Put on a magic show? Knit? Play with kittens? Use the Polaroid Pictures template provided to illustrate the types of photos you might take during that perfect day together.

Follow the Wool

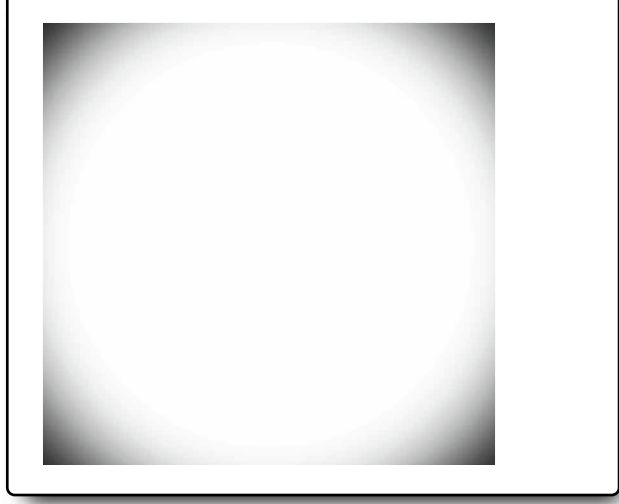
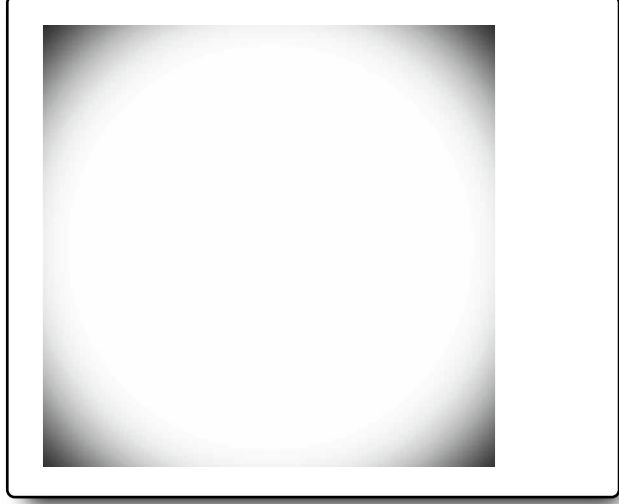
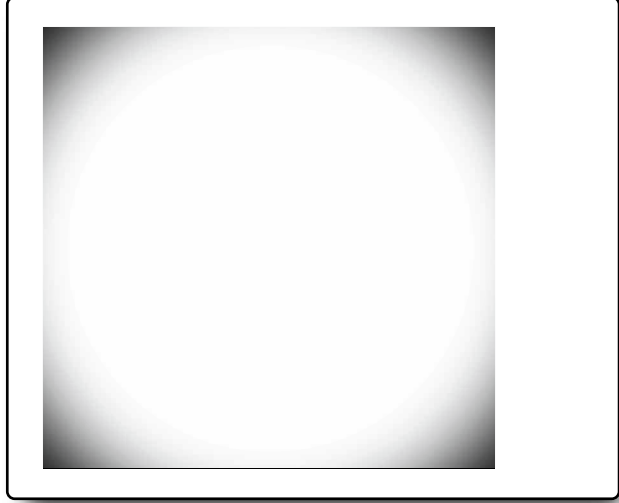
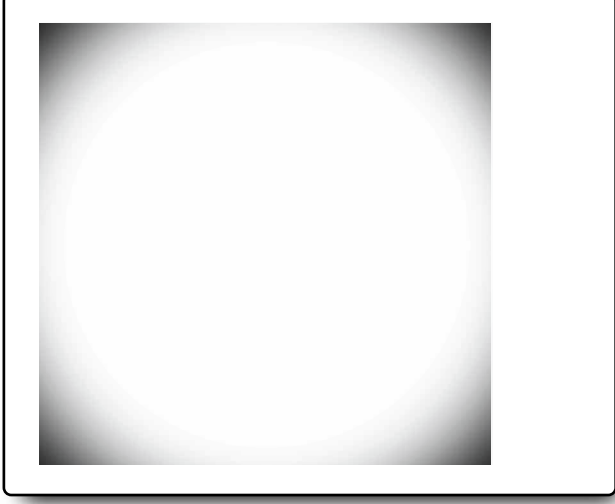
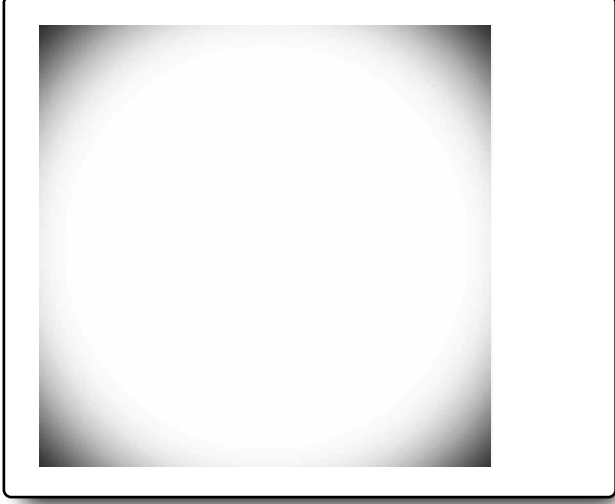
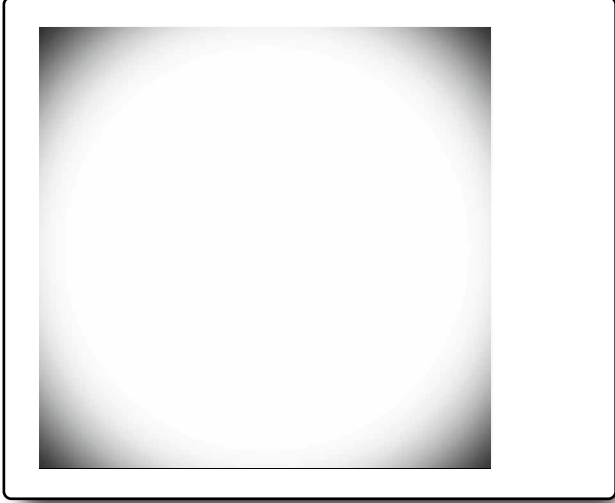
Something is unravelling Jack's jumper. Can you follow the line to see who the culprit is?



PERFECT POSTCARDS

Using coloured pencils or textas, create your beautiful postcard design in the 'postcard front' section of the template provided. On the 'postcard back' section of the template, draw a stamp and write the message you would send to that special person who had to move away. Once you have finished, cut out both sides of the template and glue together. To make it extra sturdy, you may like to glue a piece of cardboard in between. Once finished you can hand deliver your postcard to your loved one at home.

POLAROID PICTURES



FOLLOW THE WOOL

