

Little People, **BIG DREAMS**

Agatha Christie



Written by M^a Isabel Sánchez Vegara

Illustrated by Elisa Munsó

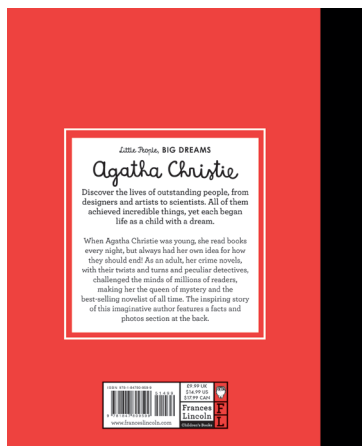
For readers aged 4+ | 9781847809599 | Hardback | £9.99

Lots of the activities and discussion topics in these teacher's notes are deliberately left open to encourage pupils to develop independent thinking around the book. This will help pupils build confidence in their ability to problem solve as individuals and also as part of a group.



The Front Cover

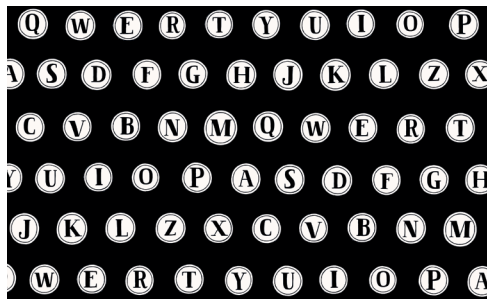
Using the clues on the front cover, can you guess why Agatha Christie was well known?



The Blurb

How do you think Agatha Christie's books would be classified:

- Detective
- Who-dunnit
- Mystery
- Crime
- All of the above?



The Endpapers

What do the letters represent?

Create your own design for end papers, suited to the Agatha Christie's type of writing.



How often do you read?

How important do you think reading is?

What sort of books do you like and why?

Create an electronic questionnaire (e.g. using Forms) and conduct a survey across the school on reading habits. Use the information you collect to help plan improvements in the school to encourage more reading.

Think of a book or story where you have had a better idea for an ending.



Do you read in bed after lights out?

Have you ever read a detective story?

Do detective stories, crime stories and mysteries appeal to you?

What famous detective is Agatha Christie reading about?



Which war do you think had started?

What sort of job did Agatha Christie take and why do you think she did this?



How do you think Agatha Christie's experiences as a nurse will help her?

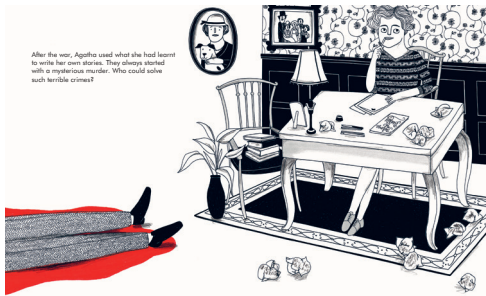
What do you think her main interest in life is?

What does the word 'toxic' mean?

What symbols are used to show that the contents of containers are dangerous?

What does the author mean by the phrase 'meet a sticky end'?

Do you ever find your imagination takes over? If so, what sort of things do you imagine?



Why do you think Agatha Christie always started her stories with a mysterious murder?

Do you ever take that approach when you are writing?

What indications are there in the illustration that shows that writing can be a difficult process?

How did Agatha Christie write her stories?

Why do you think there is a body in the illustration?



What does the word 'dastardly' mean?

Write a short description of Hercule Poirot. You might want to use a word like 'dapper.' Try using a thesaurus to extend your choice of words that you can use.



Why do you think Agatha Christie travelled the world, taking her typewriter with her?

Do you recognise the famous story that the illustration on the right hand page shows?

How do you think the victim was murdered?



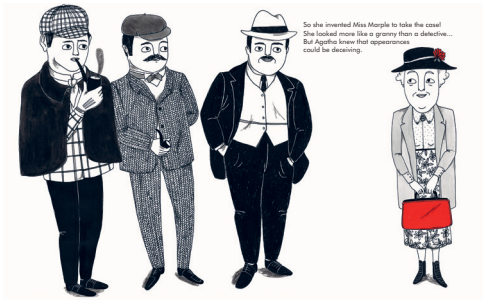
Where is the Middle East? See if you can find this area in an atlas.

What type of boat can you see in the illustration?

Look carefully at the illustration to find out which mystery Hercule Poirot couldn't crack.

Why do you think Agatha Christie decided to write a mystery that her detective couldn't solve?

What do you think the items in the bottom right hand corner are and why do you think they are there?



What is your opinion of Miss Marple?

Why do you think Agatha Christie decided to invent this character?

Do you agree that appearances can be deceptive? Can you think of examples to support your opinion?



Why do you think people read before going to bed?

How has the illustrator shown this in this spread?

What type of books do you like to read before you go to sleep?

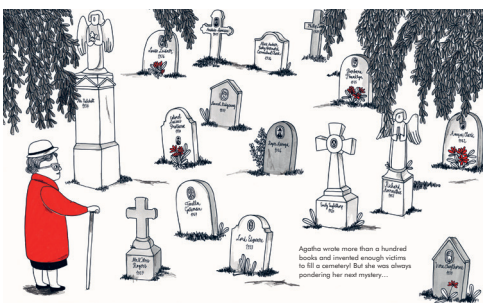
How has the illustrator used the effect of the headlights?



What do you think the black shape on the stage might be?

Who is the person in red in the illustration?

See if you can find out the name of the play, which is the longest running show of any kind in the world; over 27,000 performances have been given.



What does the text on this page tell you about Agatha Christie?

Who do you think the different graves in the illustration belong to?


Normally there is a birth and death date on headstones, but these only have one date. Why do you think that is?




What do you think about Agatha Christie's opinion that 'any mystery can be solved if you use your imagination'?

Do you think you need any other skills or attributes? Look carefully at the illustration to discover the titles of some of her novels.


AGATHA CHRISTIE
(Born 1891 • Died 1972)




1902



1916



1946



1962

Agatha Christie was born Agatha Mary Christie Miller in 1891 in Devon, England. During the war, Agatha worked as a nurse and also diagnosed infections at the hospital. Her new expertise in poisons was put to good use when she began writing her own detective stories. In 1914, a publisher accepted the *Apprentice of Sylva* for publication, which was the first novel to feature the famous detective, Hercule Poirot. A year earlier, in 1912 she journeyed across the British Empire and in 1928 she was inspired by her journey on the Great Eastern to write one of her most famous novels, *Murder on the Great Eastern*, in 1925.

Agatha inspired her own mystery when she discovered, heading to a roadside hotel. She was eventually found safe and sound in a hotel in the next town. Agatha continued to write, including her other beloved investigations, the elderly Miss Marple. Agatha Christie became the best-selling novelist of all time. Her books have been translated into more than a hundred languages and her novel *And Then There Were None* is one of the best most-read books in history. With her specific characters, her engaging cases and her stories full of twists and turns that challenged the minds of millions of readers, becoming the queen of mystery.

Find out three interesting facts about the British Empire and share them with the class.

Find out the names of some of the countries that made up the British Empire?

What does the author tell us that shows that Agatha Christie was very successful?

What makes Agatha Christie's stories particularly interesting?

Create your own time line of Agatha Christie's life, showing her birth and death dates and other important events, such as the World Wars.

Be bold, be brave, dream BIG!

Discover inspirational lives from around the world.



9781847807717



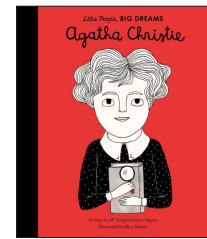
9781847807700



9781847808905



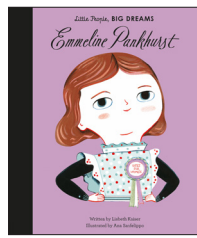
9781847808851



9781847809599



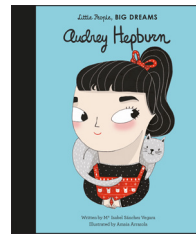
9781847809612



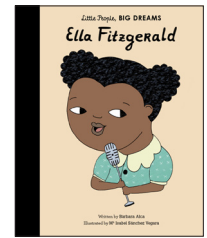
9781786030191



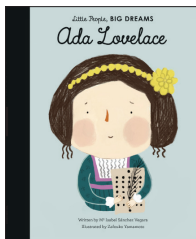
9781786030177



9781786030528



9781786030863



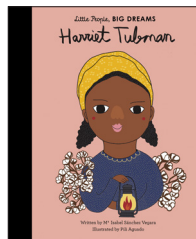
9781786030757



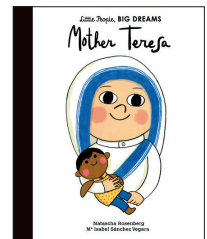
9781786031198



9781786031211



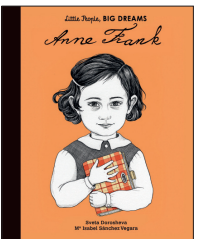
9781786032898



9781786032904



9781786032911



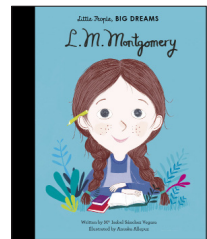
9781786032928



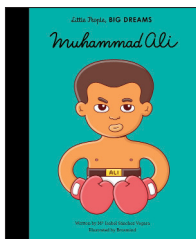
9781786032935



9781786032942



9781786032959



9781786037336



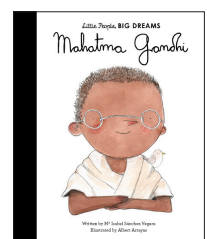
9781786037329



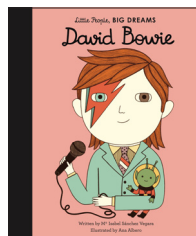
9781786037534



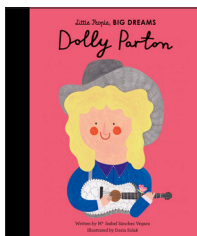
9781786037565



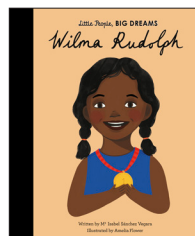
9781786033345



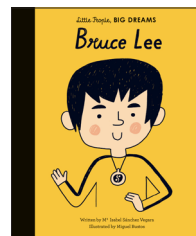
9781786038036



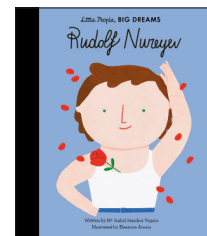
9781786037596



9781786037503



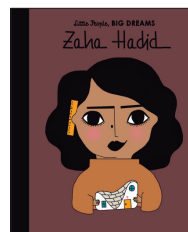
9781786033352



9781786033369



9781786037473



9781786037442

