Example Planner

Actual timescales will of course be different but this example demonstrates the spread of activity. Other things to consider include additional partner school activities, visiting museums and galleries, involving local artists, authors and parents.

MONTH 1

	M	T	W	T	F
W1	Register and pay deposit or full cost				
W2	Staff meeting: Agree purpose, aims and targets. Identify partner school. Set fundraising targets				
W3	Staff meeting: Identify themes. Set deadlines for proofreading, Dates for further planning meetings.				
W4	School assembly: Introduce challenge, explain format Write to parents & invite support/future involvement				

MONTH 2

	M	T	W	T	F
W5	Research: Learn about partner school. Understanding the situation and needs of children at partner school.				
W6	Research: Exploring different styles of illustrated children's books.				
W7	Research: Exploring different styles of writing for children.				
W8					

MONTH 3

	M	T	W	T	F
W9	Writing: Initial ideas and research related to the theme for the book.				
W10	Writing: First story ideas and rough drafts.				
W11	Writing: Developing ideas into first written drafts.				
W12	Fundraising event: Non uniform day/cake sale etc.				

MONTH 4

	M	T	W	T	F
W13	Writing: Reading first drafts aloud and obtaining feedback.				
W14	Writing: Revisions, edits and improvements. Illustrating: Idea boards for illustration methods.				
W15	Staff Proofreading: Checking stories for consistency, appropriateness, spelling and grammar.				
W16					

MONTH 5

	M	T	W	T	F
W17	Illustrating: Identify key scenes for illustrations. Checklist for each character and item to be illustrated.				
W18	Writing: Final editing of stories. Illustrating: Creating illustrations				
W19	Illustrating: Creating illustrations				
W20	Illustrating: Creating illustrations				

MONTH 6

	M	T	W	T	F
W21	Submissions: Copy stories onto template and email to info@thinky.xyz				
W22	Submissions: Label and group illustrations together for each story. Send by recorded post.				
W23	Planning: Begin planning Book Launch event with students.				
W24	Planning: Identifying people to be invited to the Book Launch. Sending invitations. Sending press releases.				

MONTH 7

	M	T	W	T	F
W25	First drafts: Proofreading. Check names carefully!				
W26					
W27	Second drafts: Check those names again!				
W28	Rehearsals: Depending on plans for Book Launch.				

MONTH 8

	M	T	W	T	F
W29					
W30					
W31	Receive books from printer				
W32	Certificates: Names on certificates. Agree on any special awards/recognition to be made.				

MONTH 9

	M	T	W	T	F
W33	Book Launch event: Good luck ~ sell lots of copies!				
W34	Pay balance: (if not already paid in full) Debrief and initial evaluation.				
W35	Order additional copies to be sent to partner school based on funds raised.				
W36	Send books to partner school Final evaluation and budget.				

Creative Story Making with a Purpose

Make a beautiful illustrated story book & share it with children learning English overseas

Make a Change with Your Imagination

> "The experience has been **amazing**. We got to make our own books and design them and to know that they will **help** other children is **great**."

Create

You could take inspiration from the local *culture, heritage* and surrounding *environment* to set a theme for your stories.

Find inspiration for your illustrations by learning about local artists and the different styles and materials they use.

Share

Most schools donate copies of their book to schools and children's projects based in countries where children are expected to learn English or where there are benefits to them doing so.

Supporting a partner school provides your book with a real life purpose and enhances the learning experience.

Professionally Finished

Your stories and illustrations will be transformed into beautiful books.

Stories are copy edited and illustrations are enhanced to look amazing while staying true to the original work.

Celebrate

After you receive your books you can organise a book launch event.

Invite parents, the media and others to show off students' work.

A book launch is a great opportunity to sell your books, raise funds, promote your school and celebrate!.

Curriculum

STORIES4SCHOOLS is a unique opportunity for project based learning.

Creative writing, purposeful writing, visual and performing arts, international learning, project management, budgeting, photography and filming are just a few ideas for integrating STORIES4SCHOOLS into your curriculum.

> "We have had a lot of **fun** creating this book. **Knowing** that so many children may **benefit** from and enjoy our work is heart-warming."

stories4SCHOOLS

www.thinky.xyz

STORIES4SCHOOLS

These are the basics of creating a book with STORIES4SCHOOLS:

Check availability and **register** your school by returning the Registration Form

Decide on a **theme** for your book and set students the challenge of **creating illustrated stories** for their book

Organise a staff meeting to **proofread** stories and look through artwork

Email the stories and send the illustrations by **recorded post**

You will receive a **first draft** of your book

Organise a staff meeting to **check proofs**

After **approval** of your book you should allow 4 weeks for delivery

Organise a **book launch event** and invite parents and local media to show off your book and promote your school

Sell copies of your book

Celebrate and share your stories with a **partner school or project**

Case Study

Knightlow school is an outstanding school in Warwickshire. It has created several STORIES4SCHOOLS books that have been sent to schools in Malawi, Uganda and India.

For each book the school invites parents and members of the local community to their book launch event. The event is attended by the local mayor and is well supported by the local media. The event promotes a positive image of the school, raises funds and provides a memorable celebration for students and staff.

Knightlow have worked with local artists and organised visits to local places of interest including museums and galleries. Each class adapts the story making process to suit their own objectives and fit with the curriculum.

The school raises funds by selling copies of their books along with additional activities including themed non-uniform days, cake sales and auctioning off the framed original artworks featured in their books. Their fundraising success has enabled the school to cover the costs of their involvement. They have also been able to sponsor a school in Malawi to create a book of their own and have developed links with schools in Uganda and India.

Their work was recognised by the British Council's International School Award:

> *"This outstanding application from Knightlow CofE Primary School and College meets the criteria for International School Award Accreditation. Well done! Out of personal interest, the assessor pursued one particular strand onto the 'STORIES4SCHOOLS' website and found 'Knightlow Adventures' and other tales originating in Stretton-on-Dunsmore highlighted on its front page. This is excellent. Overall this is superb. Congratulations, everyone!"*

Knightlow's success has led to STORIES4SCHOOLS being embedded into the school curriculum and thanks to their fundraising, their involvement hasn't eaten into the school budget.

They now have several editions of their books in the school library and have even read their stories on BBC radio.

STORIES4SCHOOLS

Book details

- A6 size (148 x 105mm)
- Maximum of 88 pages
- Full colour

The books are small because many children that receive donated STORIES4SCHOOLS books do not have things that children in the UK take for granted like school bags, pockets or bookshelves. The small size also reduces the cost of postage overseas.

Don't assume that small will be limiting. You'll be amazed at what can be packed into a small space!

Age & Classes

STORIES4SCHOOLS books have been created by children aged 4–5 years in the Foundation Stage through to sixth formers aged 16–19.

Some schools take part with a single class and others get the whole school involved. Some have children taking on individual roles as writers, illustrators, proof readers and project managers while others have groups of students working together to create collaborative stories and artwork.

Time

- Allow 6-12 weeks to complete stories and artwork
- 4 weeks for checking drafts and approving proofs
- 4 weeks after approval for printing and delivery
- 2-4 weeks for organising and running your book launch

Writing stories

Use the 'Draw your Reader' Sheet S4S007 resource to help students consider who their stories are for and what they need to consider when writing stories for them. Stories can be collaborations or written by individuals. They can be short, long or poems. Encourage students to draft, redraft, edit and proofread until they're happy to submit their work for publication.

Making illustrations

Illustrations must be hand drawn (digital artwork isn't acceptable). A good approach is to create separate artwork for backgrounds and then create characters and other items featured in the stories on additional sheets. Backgrounds look especially good with lots of texture and colours. Check that characters look how they are described in the written story.

Sending your artwork

Email your stories to info@thinky.xyz

Your hand drawn illustrations should be sent by recorded post with the relevant story labelled onto each piece of artwork.

Choosing a partner school or project

Most STORIES4SCHOOLS books are created with the intention of sending copies to a school or children's project overseas. Over 2,000 STORIES4SCHOOLS books have been distributed in African countries with others making it as far as Australia, America and Asia.

If you don't have links with a partner school you can choose to support one of the schools or projects already supported by STORIES4SCHOOLS.

Costs

The cost for 150 books including delivery is £850. This can be paid in full or as a £300 deposit with the remaining £550 payable after you receive your books.

Most schools cover their costs by fundraising.

How you fundraise and how much you charge for your books is up to you.

Example fundraising

This is a genuine example of a school that created two books with STORIES4SCHOOLS.

The school decided to keep ten copies of their book for the school library. They fundraised in order to send 30 copies of their book to a children's project in Malawi.

Book cost including delivery *(150 copies)*	£850.00
Additional copies to send to a partner school *(30 copies)*	£97.50
Posting books overseas:	£40.00
Posting artwork:	£8.00
Total costs:	*-£995.50*

Funds raised

Non uniform day:	£165.00
Book sales: *140 copies @ £6 each*	£840.00
Cake & refreshment sales at the book launch	£85.00
Other donations	£36.00
Total fundraising:	*+£1,126.00*
Surplus:	**+£130.50**

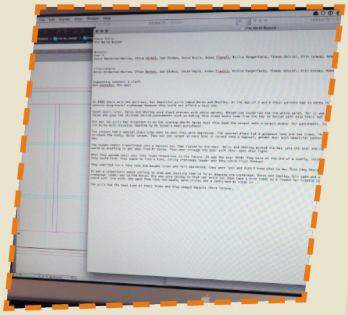
The school used their surplus to send additional copies of their book to a school in Uganda. Other schools have used their surplus to:

- pay a deposit to create another book the following year
- have posters made of their artwork for display in the school
- sponsor a school in Malawi to create a book of their own

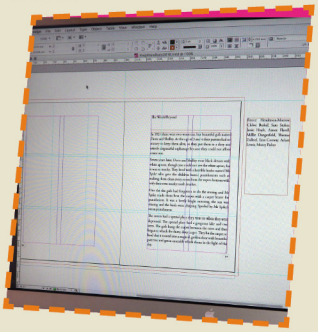
How your work becomes a book

The written stories have been emailed over and the illustrations have been sent by post *(all labelled!)*

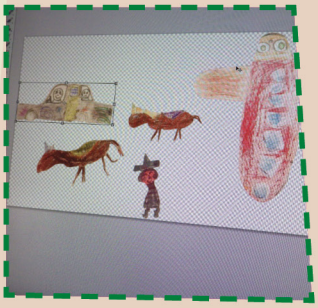
Before the pile of illustrations can be dealt with the stories need to be copy-edited. This involves checking for spelling, punctuation and consistency as well as looking out for things such as a character's hair colour not matching with the illustrations.

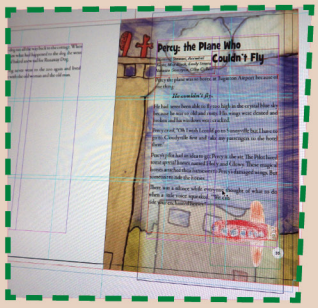


After copy-editing the stories are stripped of all formatting and then placed on the pages of the book. At this stage the layout begins to be planned and decisions are made about where to place page breaks and whether stories lend themselves to double-page spreads.



The next stage is to see how much room is available for the illustrations and to begin working through that big pile of drawings.





Characters can be digitally manipulated to appear in different positions throughout the stories and their facial expressions can be altered to suit the mood of the text they sit with.

The next part involves ensuring the text is as clear as possible while showing as much of the illustrations as possible. To achieve this the colours and sizes of the drawings are tweaked along with the text and titles.

Each illustration is scanned and then edited. Multiple illustrations are often combined into one scene. This makes illustrations interesting and is a great way to make use of different children's work.

The first draft is then complete and is sent to the school to check for errors and changes.

When all changes are complete and everyone is happy, the next stage is to create a book cover. This is usually inspired by the title of the book and for this book a selection of work by children in each year group was combined to make the final cover image.

Again this has to be checked and approved. Once done, the book is sent to print and the school begins to plan their book launch event!