Scriptwriter’s Workshop with Pip and Leo

Learning objective: To understand the features of a playscript and correctly identify and use stage directions, character names, and dialogue.

Pip the caterpillar and Leo the lion are writing a play about a forest adventure. However, they have mixed up their script features! Read the list of terms in the word bank and match them to the correct descriptions below. Then, write a short scene using the correct layout.

Word bank: Character Name · Stage Directions · Dialogue · Scene Heading

1. 1. Which term describes the words spoken aloud by the actors on stage? (1 mark)

2. 2. Which term describes instructions in brackets that tell the actors how to move or how to say their lines? (1 mark)

3. 3. Why do we put the character's name on the left-hand side of the page followed by a colon? (2 marks)

4. 4. Write a tiny script snippet where Pip (excitedly) asks Leo if he wants to read a book under the oak tree. (3 marks)

5. 5. True or False: Stage directions should be written in the exact same way as dialogue. Explain your answer. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a stage set for Pip and Leo’s play. Include a large oak tree and a pile of books. Label where the actors would stand.

Extension challenge: Choose two other BookFlik characters and write a script where they visit a store. They must try to buy a gift that costs exactly £5.00, including at least one stage direction.