Illustrating Imaginary Worlds: A World Book Day Guide

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to explain why they chose certain colours to represent the personality of their main character.

Celebrate World Book Day by designing a book cover! First, pick a central character. Second, choose a colour palette that sets the mood. Third, sketch your scene using perspective to show depth. Example: If drawing a woodland adventure, use dark greens for the trees and bright yellows for the sunlight filtering through the leaves.

■ Identify one way that using a 'focal point' helps the viewer understand the most important part of your book cover design.

■ Explain how you can use warm and cool colours to create a specific mood for a story set in a mysterious forest.

■ Why is it important to consider the 'composition' of your drawing before you begin adding fine details?

■ Describe how you might use texture to make a character, like a prickly hedgehog or a soft owl, stand out on the page.

■ If your book cover costs £2.50 to produce in materials and you make 12 copies, calculate the total cost of the materials used.

Did you know? Did you know? The first World Book Day was designated by UNESCO in 1995 to celebrate authors, illustrators, and the magic of reading. Today, millions of children across the UK celebrate by sharing stories and dressing up as their favourite literary characters!

Key vocabulary: composition · perspective · hue · texture · illustration · focal point