



Jack and the Flumflum Tree learning resource

Ideas and activities to support
using Julia Donaldson's book
in class

Age 3-8

CFE Levels Early to First

Resources created by
Scottish Book Trust

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**Scottish
Book Trust**
inspiring readers and writers

Contents

Activities: Introducing Julia Donaldson	1
Activities for Jack and the Flumflum tree	2

How to use this resource

These resources are designed to support a project around Julia Donaldson's book *Jack and the Flumflum Tree*. There are quick activity ideas, and suggestions for longer project work.

Activities: Introducing Julia Donaldson

These activities can be used with any Julia Donaldson book, and are a good way to introduce the concept of an author.

Book hunt

LIT 0-01b, LIT 0-11b

Go to your class, school or local library and go on a Julia Donaldson book hunt. Try to find as many books written by Julia Donaldson as you can. Look at the front covers and tell a partner or group which one you would most like to read and what you think it will be about.

A day in the life of...

ENG 1-17a

Julia has a range of resources to explore on her website. Take a look at the poem she has written about '[A day in my life](#)'. Create 3 questions that you would like to ask Julia, based on what she has told you about her everyday life. Try to use a mixture of hot and cold questions for Julia!

Read a variety of books

LIT 1-28a, LIT 1-29a

Read different picture books written by Julia Donaldson and write her a letter telling her about which books you liked, what you liked about them, how you feel about the illustrations and any other ideas that you have about setting, characters or plot. Tell her about the types of stories that you like to write and ask for any tips that you would like to help improve your writing.

Activities for Jack and the Flumflum Tree

Grow your own Flumflum Tree

SCN 0-04a, SCN 1-03a

The flumflum tree only grows on the far away Isle of Blowyernose. Talk about different climates and what different plants need to grow. Think about plants you can grow and grow your very own 'flumflum' tree.

Make your own patchwork sack

EXA 0-02a, EXA 1-03a, EXA 1-02a

Ask each of your pupils to make a square for the patchwork sack. You could make squares out of paper or fabric. Stitch or glue your patches together.

Let's have a look in the patchwork sack (Memory Game)

LIT 0-02a, LIT 1-02a

Find (or make!) a patchwork sack. One at a time, ask the children to put an object inside while saying the phrase: "In my patchwork sack I would pack"

See if your class can remember what each pupil packed in the sack. For younger students, this activity may be best in small groups.

Tom Tom

EXA 0-17a, TCH 0-12a, TCH 1-12a

Make Tom-Toms as a class. You could experiment with different grains, pulses, rocks inside different containers. Tap a simple rhythm and have the pupils tap the same rhythm back.

Boat

SCN 0-07a

When Jack's boat gets a leak, he knows just what to do! Explore things that float. Try a variety of objects to see if they'll float or sink. Make predictions and see if your class is right.

Make your own newspaper boat

TCH 0-12a, TCH0-14a, MTH 0-17a

Look through the pages of the book to find the small hidden newspaper boat. [This video tutorial](#) demonstrates how to make a boat using an A4 piece of paper. For this

activity, it may be best to pair upper and lower primary students together to help each other.

Maps

SOC 0-09a, SOC 1-14a, LIT 1-28a

Jack and his friends use a map to help them find the Isle of Blowyernose. Make a map of your school or neighbourhood.

Postcards

LIT 0-09b, LIT 0-31a

Jack, Rose and Stu sail away to Blowyernose. Pretend that you've gone with them on the adventure. Design and write a postcard to send to Granny to tell her all about the Isle of Blowyernose.

Act it out!

EXA 1-12a, EXA 2-12a, EXA 0-01a, EXA 2-14a

Julia's books are perfect for performing and drama activities. You could work together as a class to perform the book for parents and other pupils in your school. Scottish Book Trust has two resource packs to support drama in the classroom. Search for "How to turn picture books into plays" and "Quick ideas for performing picture books" in the browse and search function.