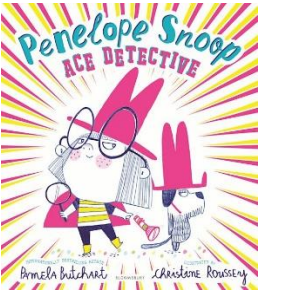


Suggested learning opportunities for *Penelope Snoop: Ace Detective* by Pamela Butchart and Christine Roussey



Mathematics and numeracy

- Create your own mystery to solve by hiding socks or pictures of snakes around your classroom using signs to direct children towards them. You could hide some inside picture books to encourage the children to look through your class library. **(MTH 0-17a/1-017a)**
- Count some of the objects in the illustrations – e.g., How many pears are there on Penelope’s duvet? How many biscuits are in the jar? Use notes or tallies to record the amounts. **(MNU 0-20a/1-20a)**
- Penelope and Carlos find a giant footprint! Measure your own footprint using different objects to explore length. **(MNU 0-20a/1-20a)**

Sciences

- In the story Penelope and Carlos take a rocket into outer space! Use the [NASA learning resources](#) to learn about the sun, moon, stars and constellations in the sky. **(SCN 0-06a/1-06a)**
- Penelope’s garden is full of lots of different kinds of plants and flowers! Look at some of the plants that grow near you. What do they need to grow? How can we look after them? **(SCN 0-03a/1-30a)**
- Penelope and Carlos find a giant muddy footprint! After it rains, look in

your playground for any wet footprints. Can you identify what animals made them? You can also explore making different footprints using toys and salt dough. **(SCN 0-20a, SCN 1-14a)**

Technology

- Penelope and Carlos wear matching tall hats. Using different materials, see who can design the tallest hat. **(TCH 0-09a/1-09a)**
- Make your own Sidney the Snake sock puppets. For inspiration, [Starcatchers’ Sock Puppet Faces video](#) will give you some top tips on designing your puppet and giving it a voice and personality! **(TCH 0-09a/1-09a, EXA 0-12a/1-12a)**

Literacy and English

- Pick a page in the book and see how many objects pupils can identify in the background. How many of those objects do you also have in your classroom? You could use this as a way to talk about nouns. **(LIT 0-14a/1-04a, ENG 0-12a/1-12a)**
- Use a magnifying glass to play “word detectives” together. Choose a word to try and find, look for words with a certain number of letters, or containing a specific letter. **(ENG 0-12a/1-12a, LIT 0-13a, LIT 0-21a)**

- Science, technology, numeracy and mathematics
- Literacy and English
- Health and wellbeing, and social studies
- Expressive arts

- In the story we see some of the other cases Penelope and Carlos have solved. Using the pictures, discuss what you think the solution to these cases were. **(LIT 0-09b/1-09a, LIT 0-31a)**
- There are lots of different letter magnets on Penelope’s fridge. Can you spot all the different letters and the sounds they make? Use a set of letter magnets, or letters on cards, to explore using letters and sounds to build words. **(ENG 0-12a, LIT 0-13a, LIT 0-21a)**

Health and wellbeing

- In the book we see Penelope’s morning routine including waking up, eating breakfast, and brushing her teeth. Talk about your morning routine and some of the things we do to look after ourselves and keep ourselves healthy. **(HWB 1-33a)**
- Penelope really loves Sidney the Snake. Ask the children to talk about a toy or item that makes them feel happy or comforted. As a take home task, you could ask them to bring in a photograph and introduce their item to the rest of the class. **(HWB 1-01a)**
- Penelope’s Mum washes Sidney because he’s a bit “whiffy”. Have a clean-up afternoon in the classroom and talk about how we can keep the classroom safe and clean for everyone. **(HWB 1-033a)**

Social studies

- Whilst in space, Penelope looks through a telescope to see all the landscape around her house. Go for a walk, then make a map of all the things around your school. **(SOC 0-07a/1-07a, SOC 0-09a)**

Art

- Design your own “finder-outer kit” just like Penelope’s. Think about what you need to solve a mystery, what you’d keep everything in and where you’d keep it hidden! **(EXA 1-04a, EXA 1-05a)**
- The artwork in the book mainly uses a handful of different colours. Pick five different colours and explore creating a picture with them. **(EXA 0-02a/1-02a)**

Drama

- Cut out and leave a large footprint in your classroom before the children come in for the day. When they come in, ask them whose footprint they think it is, and role-play trying to find out! **(EXA 0-12a/1-12a)**

Other books to read together...

- *Where Has All the Cake Gone?*, Andrew Sanders
- *The Eyebrows of Doom*, Steve Smallman and Miguel Ordóñez
- *Jeremy Worried About the Wind*, Pamela Butchart and Kate Hindley