

Some library skills ideas for Key Stage 1

Non-fiction book sorting game

- Collect a selection of books on three different subjects (e.g. human body, wild animals and countries)
- Put 3 PE hoops out on the floor
- Mix up the books and ask pupils to sort them into the three groups
- Look at the spine labels to see what they have in common

An easier version of this game would be sorting into fiction and non-fiction

Tree of knowledge

- Set up a 'tree of knowledge', with bare branches
- Make some cut out leaves with the words "I found out..." on them
- Pupils use non-fiction to find out something they didn't know before and write or draw it on a leaf to add to the tree

Looking at Information Books

You may need a trip to the school library for this. Otherwise, bring in a range of non-fiction titles to the classroom prior to the activity. Ask the children:

1. Find an Information book
2. Does it have a good cover? – mark it out of 5
3. Does it have a Contents page? – 5 points for yes
4. Does it have an index? – 5 points for yes
5. Are the pictures/illustrations good? – mark them out of 5
6. Does it look interesting enough for you to borrow? – mark it out of 5
7. What is the book's total score? (Out of 25)

Alphabetical Authors

In a library, we put story books on the shelves in alphabetical order using the author's surname.

Get the group to pretend that they are famous authors. Can they arrange themselves into alphabetical order using their surnames?

