

What to do today

IMPORTANT! Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and with any weblinks or use of the Internet required.

1. Story time

Read the poem *The Magic Pebble* by Roger McGough.

- Have you ever brought back something special from an outing or holiday, like the person here brings back the pebble from Wales?
- What was the object? Do you still have it?

2. Describing a special, magical object

Find your special holiday object or look for another unusual thing in your house. If you have a garden, maybe see if you can spot a pebble, leaf, stick or other object that catches your eye.

- If it isn't already magical, give your object magic power by whispering a spell over it – *Abacadabra, zig zag zoo!*
- Follow the instructions on *Describing a Magical Object* to write about your special thing.

3. It's magic!

Look at all the magical things that the pebble in the poem can do.

- Which is your favourite of these?
- Why does that one appeal to you the most?
- Read the instructions on *My Magical Object's Powers* and write about what magical things your special object can do.

Now try this Fun-Time Extra

- Write about a special outing or holiday that you have been on. On *My Holiday*, draw a picture of you on your holiday.

The Magic Pebble

My favourite thing is a pebble
That I found on a beach in Wales
It looks like any other
But its magic never fails.

It does my homework for me
Makes difficult sums seem clear
School dinners taste delicious
It makes teachers disappear

It turns water into lemonade
A bully into a frog
When I'm in need of company
It becomes a friendly dog

One, two, three and *Whoosh!*
You're in a foreign land
Space travel is so easy
Simply hold it in your hand

Close your eyes and make a wish
And wish your wish comes true
For the magic in this pebble
Has been waiting here for you.



By Roger McGough,
from *Happy Poems*, edited by Roger McGough.

Describing a Magical Object



1. When you have found your special thing and made it magical, draw it on *My Magical Object*. Look carefully at it.
2. Think of three adjectives (describing words) you could use to describe it (e.g., if it was a pebble you might use *round, small, hard, brown*).
3. Begin to write a sentence about your object: *My pebble is...*
4. When you get to the adjectives put a **comma** (,) between the first and the second adjectives: *My pebble is round, hard brown*
5. Use the word **and** instead of another comma between the second and the third adjectives: *My pebble is round, hard and brown.*
6. Think of three things your special object makes you feel – *safe, cheerful, calm.*
7. Write a second sentence using these adjectives.
8. Remember to use commas and the word **and** to break up the words in your adjective list –
My pebble makes me feel safe, cheerful and calm.

My Magical Object



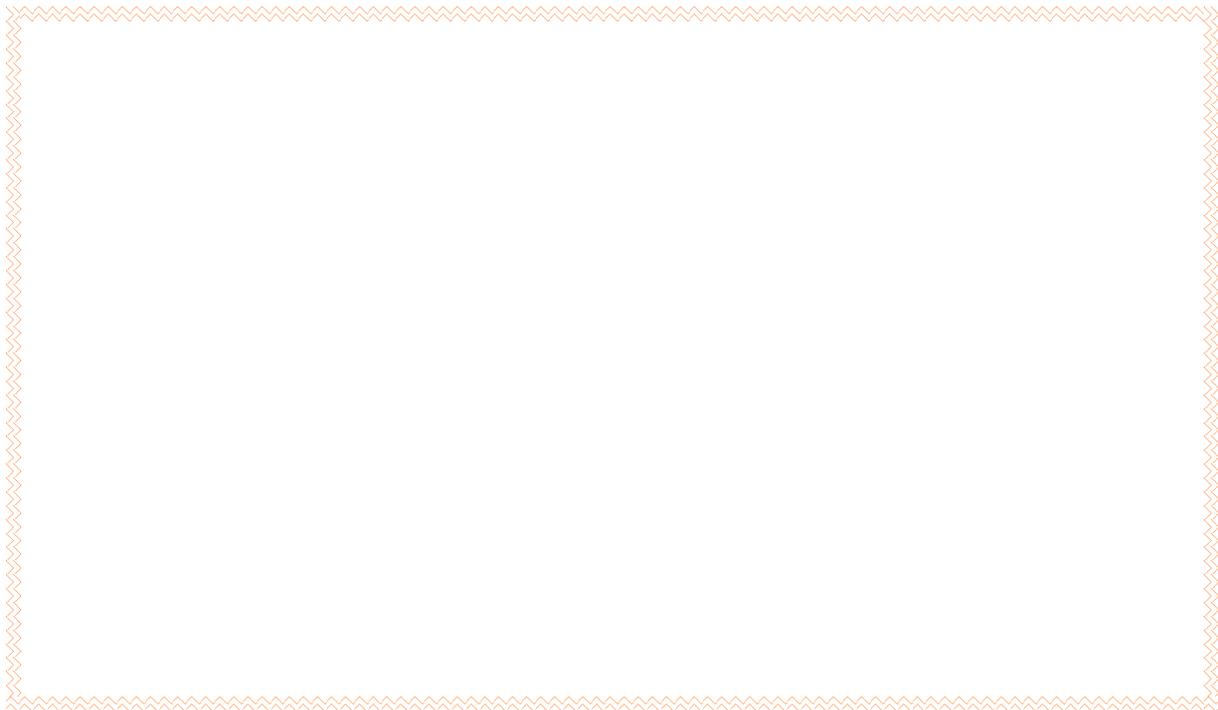
My Magical Object's Powers

A large rectangular writing area with a decorative border of colorful puzzle pieces. The border consists of interlocking puzzle pieces in shades of blue, yellow, orange, and red. The interior of the rectangle is divided into 12 horizontal lines, providing space for writing.

My Holiday



A large rectangular area with a decorative border of colorful puzzle pieces (red, yellow, blue, green, orange). The interior of the rectangle is divided into eight horizontal sections by thin grey lines, providing space for writing.



A large rectangular area with a decorative border of orange zigzag lines. The interior is completely blank, providing space for drawing or additional writing.