Take 5: Ideas for Independent/Home Learning

Bedtime for Monsters by Ed Vere (Puffin)

1. Explore it



Look at the picture from the book. Talk together about what you can see in the picture.

- Who do you think the characters in the picture are? What are they doing? Are they doing anything that you like doing?
- What do you notice about the monsters in the picture? Are they all the same or are they different? What words would you use to describe them?
- How do you think they might be feeling? Why do you think there is one monster by himself? How do you think he feels?
- Why do you think he is in a cave?
- What do you think might happen next in this story?

2. Illustrate it

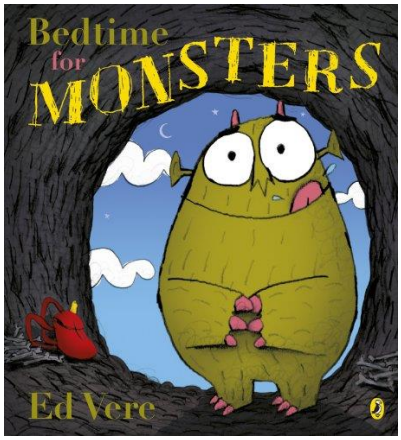
Look again at the picture from the book. Where do you think this is happening? What do you notice in the background of the picture? Is it real or not? What do you think it is like here? Are there schools there for monsters? Who else lives there? What do they do all day?

If you were going to draw a map of the place where the monsters live, what would you include? Use any materials you have to hand in your home to create your own imaginary map of the land where the monsters live.

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3. Talk about it



Look at the front cover of the book and read the title.

- What do you notice? What do you like? What do you dislike?
- Does it remind you of anything? Have you got any questions about the picture and the title? What do you notice about the monster? Do you think he looks friendly? Why? Why not?
- What could he be doing? Where do you think he might be going?
- Have you read any other books or seen any television programmes or films with monsters in? Did you enjoy these? Why? Why not?

4. Imagine it

Imagine that you can create your own monster:

- What is your monster like? What do they look like? What is their name?
- Where does your monster live?
- What do they like to do? What do they like to eat?
- Who are their friends and family?
- Does your monster make a noise? How does it sound?

5. Create it

Make your own monster. This could be a drawing, or using any other spare materials you have in your home such as old plastic bottles or boxes, plasticine and googly eyes, feathers or pipe cleaners. You could make your own playdough, using cheap and easy household ingredients: https://theimaginationtree.com/best-ever-no-cook-play-dough-recipe/

Once you have made your own monster, play with them and think about the things they say and do. You could record the adventures you have together in any way you like, for example in photographs, drawings or writing.

Listen to author/illustrator Ed Vere read the whole book here: https://clpe.org.uk/powerofpictures/vere-ed

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