



**'A World Inside  
a Book:  
Gruffalos, Dragons  
and  
Other Creatures'  
at Z-arts**

**Information before your visit**

Registered charity 1093556

## Preparation ahead of a class visit to Z-arts

We want you to make the most of your visit, and most importantly, get creative and have fun!

This will:

- give you an idea of the session your pupils will take part in
- give you some ideas for getting ready
- make sure you know what to expect

Your visit will give children a chance to increase their confidence with language and develop literacy skills through a unique educational play environment.

The immersive tour of the exhibition involves storytelling, sharing ideas, exploring imagination and creative play. The first place you enter will be Charlie Cook's living room, so having familiarity with the story *Charlie Cook's Favourite Book* will make the class visit more magical.

If you have signed up to take part in a creative workshop (options at the end of this booklet) you might have some exciting artwork or written stories to take back with you.



## Facilitation

Each tour is 1 hour long and will be led by a trained Story Explorer.

Your pupils' session will include the following elements:

- an introductory story
- exploration and play
- discussing story ideas at the end of the session

The Story Explorers will facilitate your tour and help instigate the creative play inside the exhibition. Our team of facilitators are trained to help develop creativity and explore stories with a wide range of children. They have a wealth of experience in drawing out children's ideas and imagination, imparting an understanding of narrative structure and story throughout the process.

The beginning of each session will start with an introduction that leads into storytelling. The Story Explorer will work with school classes to start their exploration inside the exhibition. A huge part of the exhibition is free play, with children being allowed to be creative and explore within a safe space. Playing in the space is a vital part of the session, as this gives pupils time and space to develop ideas and be inspired. If you would like to bolster the children's creativity further, a great option is to take part in an accompanying creative workshop.





## Differentiation

We will ensure that the session is suited to your pupils' ages and needs. These sessions are very suitable for children with SEN, and our Story Explorers can adapt delivery and the process of creating a story to best fit with pupils' needs. Please ensure you pass on all related SEN information at the point of booking – our Story Explorers need to know in advance of any changes or adaptations needed for the session.

Before you get here, you don't need to cover anything specific, but a refresher of the stories by Julia Donaldson will excite and inspire the children before they visit the exhibition.

On the day for practical information relating to your session, please consult the booking form you will have been sent.



## **Z-arts: A World Inside a Book: Gruffalos, Dragons and Other Creatures**

*A World Inside a Book: Gruffalos, Dragons and Other Creatures* brings the well-loved stories and illustrations of Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler to life.

Led by experienced storytellers, the exhibition tour is designed to be an interactive exploration, taking the children on a journey through the many books they have created together including: *The Gruffalo*, *Room on the Broom*, *Stick Man*, *Zog*, *The Highway Rat*, *Monkey Puzzle*, *Tiddler*, *Squash and a Squeeze* and many more.

Z-arts are extremely excited to be hosting *A World Inside a Book* in 2019 as *The Gruffalo* celebrates his 20<sup>th</sup> birthday this March! Bring your class to share in the celebrations and have an extra-special time enjoying the wonderful work of Axel and Julia. Whilst immersed in the playful exhibition experience, children are given opportunities to discuss the stories and recite parts of Julia's books, which often include poetic verse.

To complement the experience, school groups can take part in a one-hour creative workshop where key themes from the exhibition and Julia and Axel's writing & illustrations are explored through your choice of visual arts, drama and movement, dance, creative writing or music.

This works extremely well for two form entry. If you wish to bring two classes at the same time, whilst one class is in the exhibition, the other can take part in the workshop. Then after a short break they can swap over. It's a really great day out where you can build on learning that has already taken part in the classroom or just to have some fun with one of the world's best loved authors!

## Workshops

### Early Years Foundation Stage workshop options

The workshops are designed to support early learning goals across the EYFS framework, including providing opportunities for listening and speaking, movement and handling, understanding the world, exploring materials and being imaginative.

**This key stage bracket will look at: *The Gruffalo and Tiddler\****

Choose from:

Music - Children explore *The Gruffalo* characters and settings through sound, music and song.

Drama & Movement - Using *The Gruffalo* as inspiration – children are led on an adventure through the forest that incorporates movement, puppetry, a phonics soundscape and singing to accompany the story.

Art - Children will make their own storytelling fish puppets, constructing from paper, exploring different surface pattern and colours. When finished these vibrant sculptures are great for instigating imaginative play inspired by *Tiddler*.

### Key Stage 1 workshop options

Our workshops have been designed to complement the Primary Framework for Literacy by providing opportunities for speaking, listening, and comprehension whilst exploring poetry and narrative.

**This key stage bracket will look at: *Zog and The Gruffalo\****

Choose from:

Story Writing & Drama - With *Zog* as a starting point, children will invent a brand-new creature through dramatic techniques as a class and create a short story together about the creature. Which you can start writing and drawing in the free booklets we provide and finish back in class.

Art - *The Gruffalo* inspired masks using a variety of playful art materials – children will create fantastical masks that explore texture, pattern and contrasting colours.

Music - Using the music and songs created Julia Donaldson which use specially created music children will take part in a fun interactive music and percussion workshop singing to a composed song and backing track created by our music teacher.

### Key Stage 2 workshop options

These workshops are available on request and look at the stories: ***The Snail & The Whale, Charlie Cook's Favourite Book, The Smartest Giant in Town\****

We have options in Story Writing & Drama, Music and Art.

\* please note we can amend a workshop to a specific story if you let us know at least 2 weeks ahead of your visit.