



Thumbs Up
We were great at
the task
because...



Thumbs Sideways
We were good at
the task
because...



Thumbs Down
We were OK at the
task because...

we came up with ideas and
possibilities, e.g....

we asked questions,
because these helped
to...

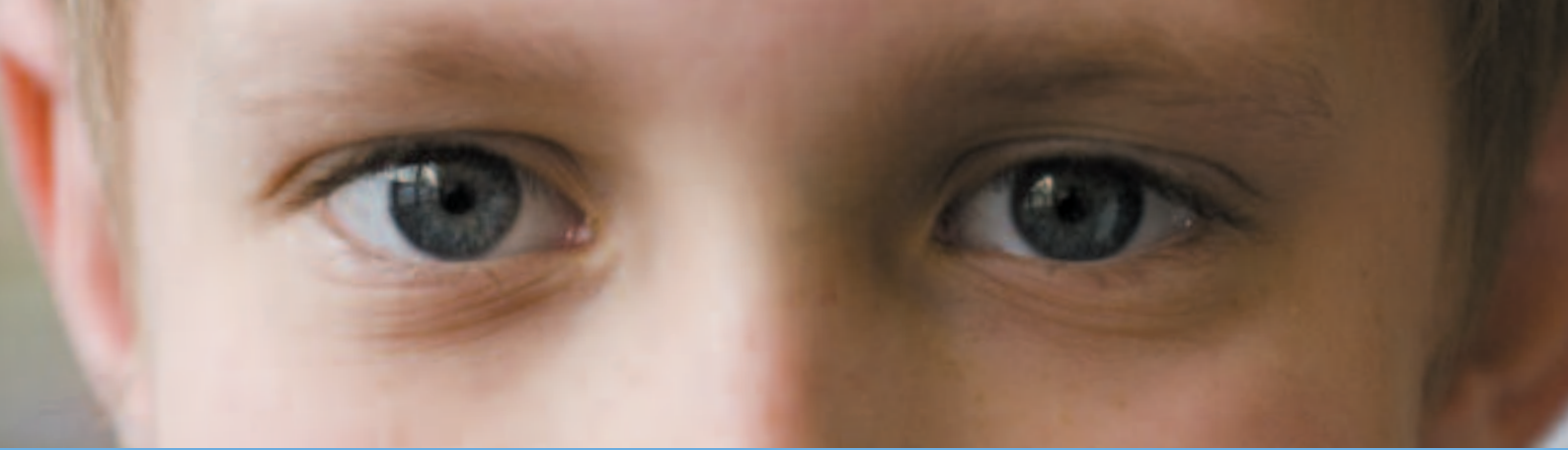
we explored the
consequences of our ideas
from different viewpoints,
e.g....

we started to explain our
ideas using scientific
knowledge and
understanding e.g....

we...

Next time we will...





Rescue Venice

Creativity & Problem Solving: to take time to be imaginative and curious

Investigative skills: to think creatively to explain science ideas

Generic task

Tall Stories



Learning Objective

Creativity & Problem Solving: to take time to be imaginative and curious

Introducing the task 5 minutes

Ask the children, “When was the last time you heard a really scary story? Or a really, really funny story?” Explain that many of the stories we hear are about beautiful characters, like Cinderella or Snow White. Some are about magic and mystery, like Harry Potter or the Lord of the Rings. Some stories tell us what is happening in our world, like stories on the news or in the paper.

Some of the most unusual stories are those that we imagine. This task encourages us to use our imagination so that we can build up elaborate, imaginative, captivating, exciting and unusual stories. How ‘tall’ will your story be?

Running the task 25 minutes

You need: a circle of friends, some story starters written on the board, a large soft ball.

- 1 The children should stand in a circle. Ask for a volunteer to start telling a story. They should hold the soft ball while they are talking. The volunteer tells the group the first line – try to be as imaginative as possible! Some ideas are given on the Tall Stories sheet.
- 2 Once they’ve said their line, the child throws the ball to anyone else in the circle and sits on the floor.
- 3 The person who catches the ball continues the story, adding another sentence that follows on. Try to keep the story moving quickly. When they have added their line, they throw the ball to another person and sit on the floor.
- 4 As the number of people gets to just a few, those still standing should try to bring the story to the end. The last person standing finishes it off.

What made the story unusual, interesting, captivating, funny, scary etc.?

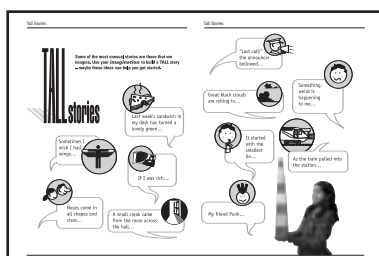
Helpful Hints

As the stories progress, encourage the children to introduce new characters, surprises or funny elements. See how long one story can keep going by letting everyone have two goes before sitting down.

Children should be able to pass if they wish to, in order to avoid being singled out or if they feel less confident. Helpers could be ready to begin or continue stories, where children find it difficult.

Reinforce that it is great to use our imagination; it’s where all our new ideas come from. Where would we be if we didn’t have ideas?

Resources



Science embedded task

Rescue Venice



Learning Objectives

National Curriculum

Sc1: 1a

Ideas and Evidence

to think creatively to try and explain how things work and to establish links between causes and effects

Success Criteria

To be successful the children will:

- come up with ideas and possibilities
- ask questions
- explore the consequences of an action from different viewpoints
- explain ideas using scientific knowledge and understanding.

Introducing the task 10 minutes

Ask the children, "What does it mean to be imaginative and curious?" "What helps you to come up with lots of ideas and suggestions?" Reinforce that ideas often help us to be imaginative and curious about things around us (relate this back to the generic task).

Running the task 40 minutes

- 1 Organise the children into teams of four.
- 2 Read aloud Information Sheet 1 and 2 and ask the teams to make sense of and summarise the information.
- 3 Read aloud Instruction Sheet checking that the children understand the task. Give out Response Sheet that will be used throughout the task.

- 4 Ask the children to think about as wide a range of ideas as possible and list these on the Response Sheet. (Use Rescue Venice Support Cards 1, if appropriate). After a few minutes they should bring their ideas together, initially in pairs and then as a whole team.
- 5 Teams select and record their best idea – which may involve voting on one, linking ideas or choosing the most 'imaginative' or 'scientific'. As a teacher, try not to endorse only the strongest scientifically appropriate ideas.
- 6 Use Rescue Venice Support Cards 2 to encourage the children to link some of their ideas to science topics. Ask them to explain and record the scientific basis of how their 'best' idea could work. Encourage them to think about what other things they will need to know or find out, if their idea is to move on.

As an extension:

Ask the children to briefly discuss the consequences and potential impact of their idea on the three characters on the Instruction Sheet. Discuss the different viewpoints and role play the views of different characters when presented with the team's idea.

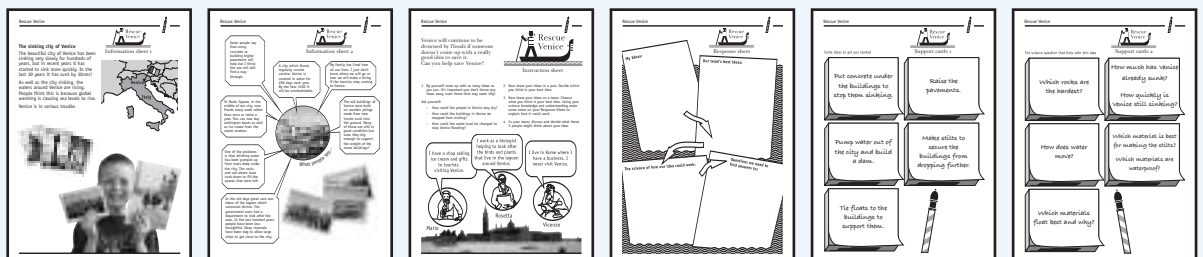
Reviewing the task 10 minutes

Ask the children: Do they think they were imaginative? What helped to produce a wide range of ideas? Can the science they know be used to explain how some of the ideas might work? Reinforce that no actual solutions to Venice's problems have yet been found, and that often many ideas will eventually be considered before successful action is taken. Involve the children in making an overall judgement about how they worked on the task using the assessment for learning Smart Grid (see back cover).

Specific detail is not expected but they should try to identify some key science ideas involved, e.g. if they are considering:

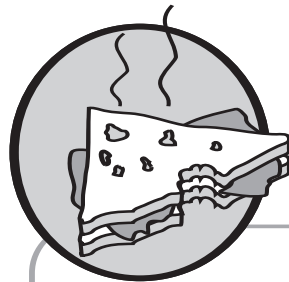
- supporting buildings, they should consider the properties of materials
- propping buildings up, they should consider that there will be certain forces acting on the materials.

Resources



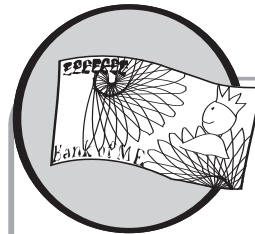
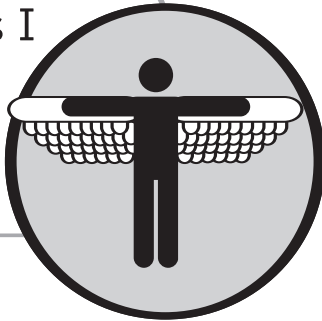
TALL stories

Some of the most unusual stories are those that we imagine. Use your *imagination* to build a TALL story – maybe these ideas can help you get started.

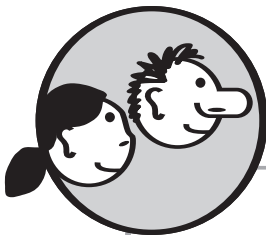


Last week's sandwich in my desk has turned a lovely green...

Sometimes I wish I had wings...



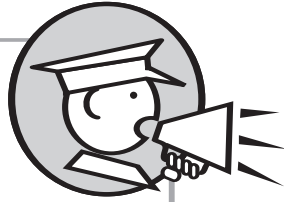
If I was rich...



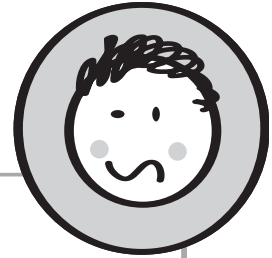
Noses come in all shapes and sizes...

A small creak came from the room across the hall...





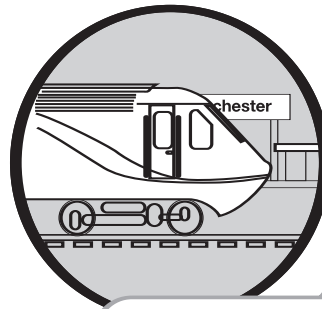
"Last call!"
the announcer
bellowed...



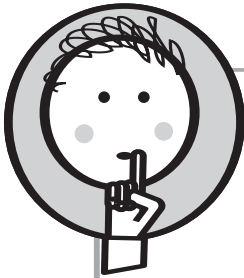
Something
weird is
happening
to me...



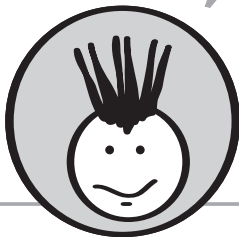
Great black clouds
are rolling in...



As the train pulled into
the station...



It started
with the
smallest
lie...



My friend Punk...





The sinking city of Venice

The beautiful city of Venice has been sinking very slowly for hundreds of years, but in recent years it has started to sink more quickly. In the last 30 years it has sunk by 30cms!

As well as the city sinking, the waters around Venice are rising. People think this is because global warming is causing sea levels to rise. Venice is in serious trouble.





Rescue Venice
Information sheet 2

Some people say that using concrete or building higher pavements will help but I think the sea will still find a way through.

A city which floods regularly cannot survive. Venice is covered in water for 200 days each year. By the Year 2100 it will be uninhabitable.

My family has lived here all our lives. I just don't know where we will go or how we will make a living if the tourists stop coming to Venice.

St Marks Square, in the middle of our city, now floods every week rather than once or twice a year. You can now buy wellington boots as well as ice cream from the street vendors.

The old buildings of Venice were built on wooden pilings made from tree trunks sunk into the ground. Many of these are still in good condition but were they big enough to support the weight of the stone buildings?



What people say...

One of the problems is that drinking water has been pumped up from rocks deep under the city. The rocks and soil above have sunk down to fill the spaces that were left.

In the old days great care was taken of the lagoon which surrounds Venice. The government even had a department to look after the area. In the last hundred years people have been less thoughtful. Deep channels have been dug to allow large ships to get close to the city.



Venice will continue to be drowned by floods if someone doesn't come up with a really good idea to save it.
Can you help save Venice?



Instruction sheet

1 By yourself come up with as many ideas as you can. It's important you don't throw any ideas away, even those that may seem silly!

Ask yourself:

- How could the people in Venice stay dry?
- How could the buildings in Venice be stopped from sinking?
- How could the water level be changed to stop Venice flooding?

2 Now share your ideas in a pair. Decide which you think is your best idea.

3 Now share your ideas as a team. Choose what you think is your best idea. Using your science knowledge and understanding make some notes on your Response Sheet to explain how it could work.

4 In your team, discuss and decide what these 3 people might think about your idea.

I have a shop selling ice cream and gifts to tourists visiting Venice.



Mario

I work as a biologist helping to look after the birds and plants that live in the lagoon around Venice.



Rosetta

I live in Rome where I have a business. I never visit Venice.



Vincenzo





Response sheet

My Ideas:

Our team's best ideas:

The science of how our idea could work:

Questions we need to find answers to:



Support cards 1

Some ideas to get you started

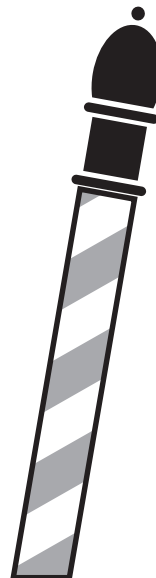
Put concrete under
the buildings to
stop them sinking.

Raise the
pavements.

Pump water out of
the city and build
a dam.

Make stilts to
secure the
buildings from
dropping further.

Tie floats to the
buildings to
support them.





Support cards 2

The science question that links with this idea

Which rocks are the hardest?

How much has Venice already sunk?

How quickly is Venice still sinking?

How does water move?

Which material is best for making the stilts?

Which materials are waterproof?

Which materials float best and why?

