




Rhyming Multisensory Stories

STORYTELLING THROUGH THE Senses 

# *Dear Santa...*

## *Adapting into a Play*



# Health & Safety

**⚠ Before we start our magical adventure please read the guidance below:)**

The author has used their best efforts in preparing this story and makes no representation or warranties with respect to the accuracy, applicability, fitness or completeness to the contents.

The information in this story is for pleasure purposes.

If you wish to apply any ideas contained in this book you are taking full responsibility for your actions.

If you are in any doubt regarding undertaking any activity or using a prop then please seek advice before starting.

**⚠ These activities are designed to be led and supervised by a responsible adult at all times.**

**⚠ Be aware of choking hazards.**

**⚠ Check the ingredients in any items you may be using for potential food or skin allergies or reactions. If you see any signs of redness, swelling or other symptoms of a suspected reaction seek immediate medical advice.**

**⚠ The interactions should be led by the story explorer who should be allowed to participate without expectation.**

**⚠ Never force stimuli and stop the activity if the story explorer shows signs they are not enjoying the activity.**

## *Dear Santa - Poem*

Dear Santa...

I'm writing my letter early this year

As you get lots of mail from children I hear

I've tried really hard everyday to be good

To share and be kind, just as you should

Here's a few ideas of things I would like

Some Play-Doh, bubbles and a shiny new trike

A toy car, a boat and a jet plane

Some track for my station, a very fast train

A whistle, tambourine and a very loud drum

A Tuff Tray and slime, now that would be fun!

A new physioball, (my old one's gone flat)

And for my new trike, a shiny hard hat

## *Dear Santa - Poem*

You can bring me some chocolate and toffees to chew

An orange, some coins...well just a few

A Koosh, a torch and some lights for my tent

I will make good use, it will be money well spent

...And one more thing I forgot to tell

For my red trike, a shiny new bell

Mum says I must write for my sister who's two

Bring her a doll and a shape sorter too

I will look for you Santa, high in the sky

And leave you some milk and a tasty mince pie

I must go now as it's getting quite late

Thank you Dear Santa

*Johnny Aged 8*

# Adapting the story into a Play

## Adapting the Poem to a school play

### Characters



**Student** - writing letter

**Santa** - sorting through letters

**Students** - interacting with the toys

**Narrator** - or option for students to speak/sign their line as they enter the stage with their toy

# Adapting the story into a Play

## 'Dear Santa...I'm writing my letter early this year'

Spotlight on student(s) writing a Christmas wish list, flicking through a toy catalogue and/or cutting and sticking pictures from the catalogue onto paper

## 'As you get lots of mail from children I hear'

Santa flicks sorts through a pile of envelopes, opening and reading them

## Here's a few ideas of things I would like....

### 'Chocolate Coins'

Can the student say or sign 'chocolate coins?'

### 'Bubbles'

Can the student blow bubbles or use a switch to operate a bubble machine?



Enter Postman onto stage delivering a sack of letters to Santa

The postman can keep re-entering stage to deliver letters.

Throw chocolate coins into the Audience

Blow bubbles into the audience

# Adapting the story into a Play

'...a shiny new trike and a hard hat'



Student rides in on a trike/ride on/scooter board/space hopper wearing a hard hat

'...and for my trike a shiny new bell'



Student runs behind the bike/hopper/scooterboard ringing a bell/horn

'...a toy car, a boat'



Student operate a remote control car (or rolls a toy car across the stage)

'...and a jet plane'



Students throw paper airplanes into the air

# Adapting the story into a Play

'...a very fast train'



Students enter the stage signing 'Train' (Bend one arm and move in a circular motion by side) or moving in a 'cardboard box' train

'...a whistle, tambourine and a very loud drum'



Students enter the stage playing instruments (Option to play/sing/sign a song the audience know and can join in)

'...a new physioball, my old one's gone flat!'



Student enters the stage holding a deflated physioball and a pump



# Adapting the story into a Play

'...a koosh'



Option to throw a few of Kooshes into the audience

'...bring my sister a doll'



Student enters stage pushing a pram

'...and a shape sorter too'



1. Students dress as shapes  
e.g. square: cardboard box  
triangle: hat, star: Carrying star shaped wands  
2. Carrying 3D shapes (raid the maths cupboard!)  
3. A student completes a shape sorter puzzle on stage

# Adapting the story into a Play

'I will look for you Santa, high in the sky'



Dim the lights  
Students enter the stage  
shining torches onto the  
ceiling

'...and leave you some milk and a tasty mince pie'



Student places milk and  
mince pie by Santa who is  
still onstage sorting  
through letters

'I must go now as it's getting quite late...'



Stage clears except for a  
spotlight on Santa and  
student writing letter

'Thank you Dear Santa, Johnny aged (8)'



Student approaches Santa  
with their letter, places it in  
an envelope and hands to  
Santa, signs 'Thank you'  
then exits stage

## *What Is A Multisensory Story?*

A multisensory story is told using words and sensory stimuli (story props).

## *Who Are Multisensory Stories For?*

Multisensory stories are aimed at pre-schoolers, early years, primary and students with special educational needs and learning disabilities from curious pre-schoolers to teenagers with complex needs.

The stories form an excellent base on which to scaffold learning providing opportunities for the individual to work towards their personal learning goals and targets.

## *Are The Stories Only For Use In Educational Settings?*

The stories and poems are fully resourced, step by step guides, making them the perfect resource for Parents, Siblings, Guardians, Childminders, Early Years Educators, Teachers, HLTA's, TA's, Speech Therapists, Play Therapists, Support Workers, Activity Coordinators, Storytellers, Librarians and anyone with an interest in exploring storytelling through the senses in a fun and engaging way!

## *Why **Rhyming** Multisensory Stories?*

The combination of sensory stimuli, listening to the rhyme and rhythm and the repetitive structure of the stories, supports memory and aids learning, playing a crucial role in the development of early communication language skills; joint attention, eye-contact, turn-taking, anticipation and the learning of concepts.

## *What Are The Benefits Of Multisensory Storytelling?*

Stories create a bond between the storyteller and the story explorer enhancing and enriching experiences.

The stories connect the individual to literature, culture and topic in a fun, engaging and motivating way.

They form an excellent base on which to scaffold learning, providing opportunities for the individuals to work towards personal learning goals and targets .

The activities in the stories are designed to promote:

**Communication skills:** Eye contact, listening, shared attention and language development.

**Self-confidence and well-being:** Trying out new ideas & skills, practicing self-care, independence and enjoying achievement.

**Self-awareness:** Asking for 'help', 'again' and 'more'.

**Exploration of cause & effect and building of anticipation skills.**

**Promote physical development:** Fine and gross motor skills.

**Build knowledge about the environment & the world around us.**

**Engagement in scientific experimentation and mathematical concepts.**

**Development of social & emotional skills:** Turn-taking, sharing and teamwork.

## *Can Multisensory Stories Build Communication Skills?*

Sensory stories are an excellent motivating tool for encouraging alternative communication systems, early communication skills, Makaton, sign language and to facilitate PECS exchanges. The stories build the confidence of learners with speech impediments and communication difficulties as they have a physical (story) prop to support the spoken word.

## *How Does Multisensory Storytelling Enhance & Enrich Lives?*

The sensory stimuli (story props) are a tool for the individual to explore and express their likes, dislikes and sensory preferences providing opportunities to make choices.

Observing reactions to a range of sensory stimuli enables you to build a picture of sensory preferences that can be used to identify motivators, items to items calm an individual when anxious, tired or stressed and to identify triggers. You may seek to avoid some triggers and to work on building tolerance on others that may be necessary (e.g. teeth brushing) through sensory exploration in a safe and therapeutic environment.

When used in a safe setting rhyming multisensory stories can be used to prepare the story explorer for visits out of their daily routine such as getting a haircut or the [dentist](#).

This sensory record can help parents, carers and teaching staff make informed choices to enhance daily life in areas such as diet, sensory needs, daily activities and leisure activities and is an invaluable tool to inform on the behaviour strategies and the writing of care plans.

## *How Do I Source My Story Props?*

The stories and poems are fully resourced and with different options suggested for props.

The props are all low budget items that can be found around the home, garden or classroom.

You can also add your own props.

[Find out more about sourcing props.](#)



## Rhyming Multisensory Stories

STORYTELLING THROUGH THE **Senses** 

Your questions, queries, comments and feedback are always welcome:)

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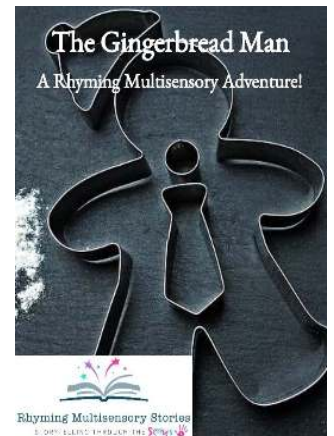
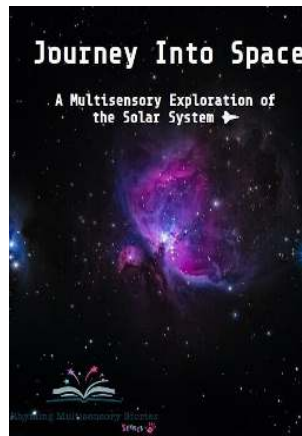
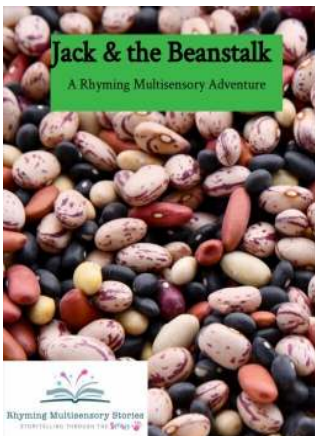
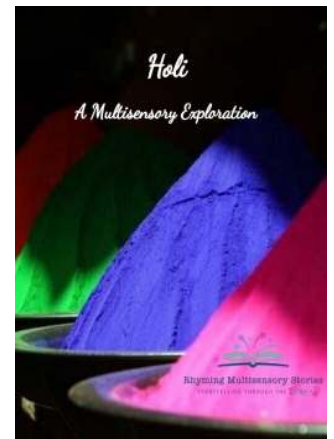
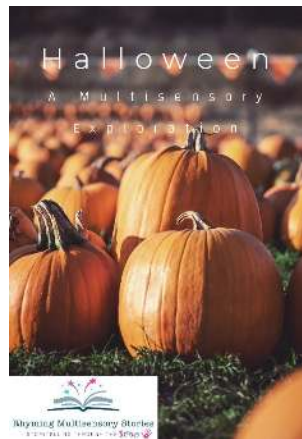
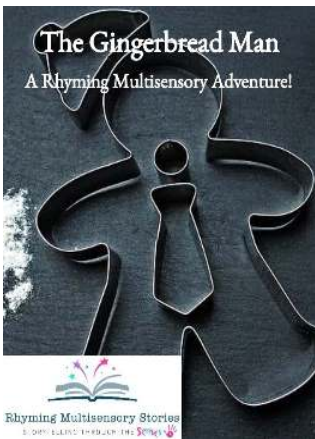
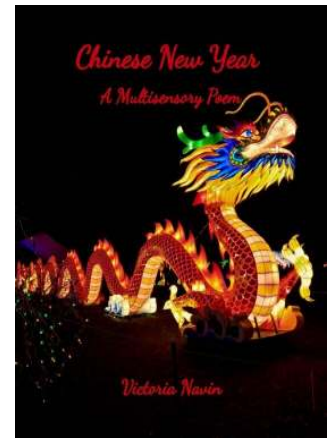
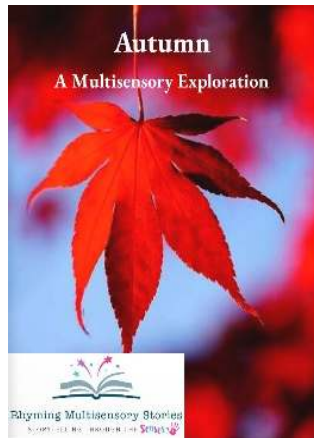
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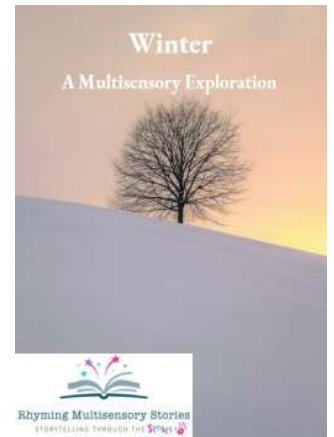
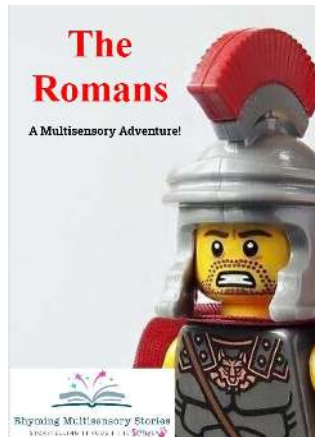
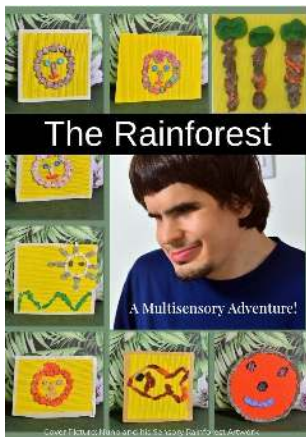
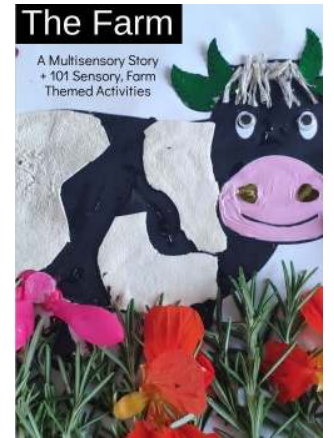
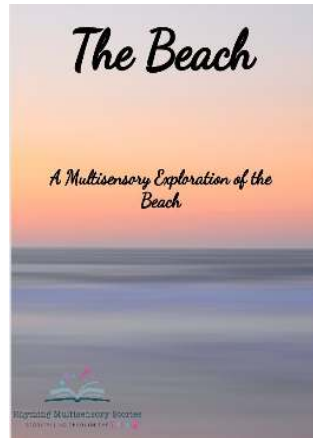
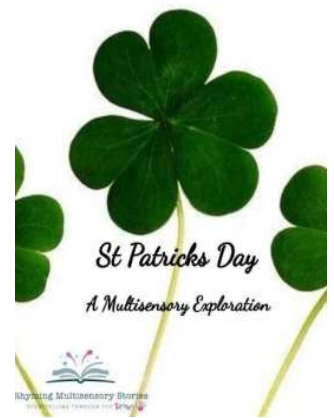
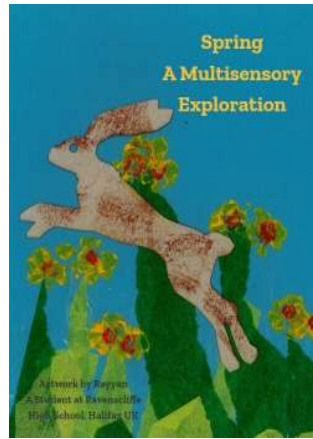
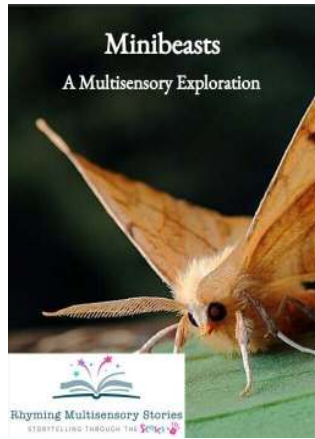


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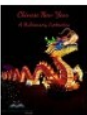
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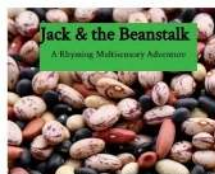
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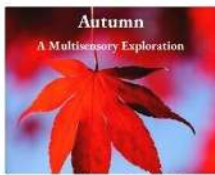
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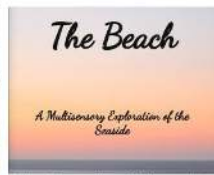
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**A Multisensory Adventure! The Romans have arrived!**  
Just released! The Romans - A Multisensory Adventure Tale of Conflict Introduction The Benefits of Multisensory Storytelling - how to...

**November Teaching Calendar**  
Sensory ideas and inspiration to celebrate the month of November. sensory Preceptor by Year 8 students November: 1st - 29th UK Parliament...

**Autumn Catalogue Out Now!**  
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**Building Anticipation Skills**  
Benefits of teaching anticipation skills: Promote communication skills, shared attention, focusing skills, waiting for their 'turn' to speak...

**Den Building**  
Building dens is a fun and shared activity of mine. Can a child do it without the help of a parent? I'll be sharing my ideas on the open space in the...

**October Teaching Calendar**  
We have officially bid farewell to summer. The nights are creeping in. It's time to dig out our chunky jumpers and enjoy waking hearty...

**NAC Non-Verbal Affective Care**  
Mental health and emotional care and wellbeing for people with severe and profound intellectual disabilities. A Guest Blog by Dr Julie...

**The (new) role of an intervener during COVID - 19 Guest Blog by Denise...**  
My name is Denise Thomas. I live in Morriston, Ansonard, Breda. I am an educator and specialist in social and health communication...

**Euro 2021 sensory Football Match!**  
With Euro 2021 underway, I thought I'd share a few ideas of how to bring the game into the classroom with a virtual sensory football...

**June Newsletter**  
Welcome to the June newsletter. In this edition, I journey into Spoken Words, claim your 40% discount code June Teaching Calendar Classroom...

**May Newsletter**  
Welcome to the May newsletter. In this edition, The Originalised Man Near Release Claim your Discount Code The Sensory Festival May...

**Showcase Your Artwork!**  
Rhyming Multisensory Stories always love to feature pictures of the wonderful art and craft activities you send in so I decided to build...

**INSET Training Afternoon at Hebden Green School**  
I was delighted to have been invited to host of the new school term by delivering the INSET training afternoon at the fabulous Hebden...

**September Teaching Calendar**  
Welcome to the September newsletter. In this edition, New Release! September Teaching Calendar New Release! Autumn - A Multisensory...

**May Newsletter**  
Welcome to the May newsletter. In this edition, The Originalised Man Near Release Claim your Discount Code The Sensory Festival May...

**'Creating Sensory Access Through Stories' A Guest Blog by Joanna Grace**  
Sensory stories are a wonderful way to engage differently abled people in narrative. For some people they provide access to narrative...

**Building Towers**  
Building Towers with Development in the Following Areas: Motor skills, Spatial awareness, Problem solving, critical thinking, executive...

Guest Bloggers welcome:)

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'Dear Santa' Copyright © Victoria Navin 2020 All Rights Reserved  
In memory of my dear Dad who wrote the original version of this poem:)

