

JOE WHITE

YOU MIGHT BE A DRAGON



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SENSORY STORY

You Might be a Dragon

A Multi-Sensory Adventure by Joe White

As with any activity the storyteller needs to be attuned to the learner's individual sensory preferences. Nothing about this sensory experience should be aversive. It will be up to the storyteller to involve the learner as much as possible in the storytelling experience. Wherever possible communication should be encouraged, this may be eye contact, preferences, or consent. The learner should be as active a participant as possible fully empowered - if they don't want pretend Dragon wings on then fine - you wear them.

If you need to adapt this story to meet an individual's needs do so. When reading it you must be fully involved.

Have fun, in a wintery wonderland sensory story throughout. As long as the learner is enjoying it you can't go wrong.

Essential Sensory resources

A Mirror - This will be securely placed where the learner can see it. I use a perspex mirror designed for young children as it is light and safe. I have used car mirrors that attach to the headrest to allow parents to see their babies.

A box to keep the resources - you can reveal them from the box to build anticipation and joint attention. You really have two choices here - to have a consistent sensory story box, or to use a themed box i.e. a Treasure



You Might be a Dragon

Sensory Resources

Large fans or sheets to flap like wings

Spiky objects for children to feel and represent
claws

Foil or textured materials for armor plates

Toothbrushes or toys to represent sharp teeth

A hairdryer or fan to simulate hot breath (on warm
setting only)

Fake or play gold coins and jewels for children to
collect

long ribbon or scarves for children to wave like a
tail

Red flashlights or glow sticks for glowing eyes

Paper horn or spiked headbands for children to
wear



You Might Be a Dragon

You might be a dragon if you have...
Huge wings that flap and swoop.

You might be a dragon if you have...
Sharp claws that tear through rocks.

You might be a dragon if you have...
Scales as hard as armour.

You might be a dragon if you have...
Big sharp teeth for breaking bones.

You might be a dragon if you have...
Hot fire for breath.

You might be a dragon if you have...
Lots of gold and jewels in piles.

You might be a dragon if you have...
A long tail that swishes and flicks

You might be a dragon if you have...
Eyes that glow a terrifying red.

You might be a dragon if you have...
Horns and spikes on your head.

You are a Dragon!!!!



Making the Experience More Interactive

Here are some ways to make the sensory experiences in stories and poems more interactive for children:

Act out the experiences - Have children act out being the different characters or objects in the story. They can pretend to be a dragon flying through the sky.

Take turns - Assign different sensory experiences or props to different children and have them take turns acting them out. This gives each child a chance to participate.

Add movements or sounds - Encourage children to make movements or sounds to match the props and experiences.

Ask questions - Pose open-ended questions to the children about the experiences to get them thinking and talking. "What does the breathing fire taste like?"

Invite touching/smelling - Allow children to directly interact with the props by touching, smelling and manipulating the real objects. This will make the experiences more concrete and memorable.

Retell the story - Have children retell the story using the props and experiences, in their own words. This shows how interactive experiences can help them internalize and remember details.