

# SunSmart book characters

## Learning intentions

Children will identify which characters in picture books are well protected for sunny days.

## Stepping stones

Area of development	Stepping stone
Personal, social and emotional development	Children will understand what is right, what is wrong and why
Communication, language and literacy	Children will sustain attentive listening, responding to what they have heard by relevant comments, questions and actions They will listen with enjoyment and respond to stories

## Organisation

Small group

## Resources

Range of picture books with pictures of sunny and snowy days (e.g. Splash by Jane Hissey (Red Fox); Lucy and Tom at the Seaside by Shirley Hughes (Puffin); Winnie in Winter by Korky Paul and Valerie Thomas (Oxford University Press); felt pens and crayons; t-shirt activity sheet

## Key vocabulary

Protect, sunglasses, sunhat, t-shirt, snow, shoulders, back, neck, sunshine

## Introduction

Read a story that takes place on a sunny day. As you read encourage the children to look at the central characters and to notice what they are wearing. Explain that on a sunny day it is important to be protected. Talk about the recommendations given in the SunSmart Code:

- S**pend time in the shade between 11 and 3
- M**ake sure you never burn
- A**im to cover up with a t-shirt, hat and sunglasses
- R**emember to take extra care with children
- T**hen use factor 15+ sunscreen

## Activity

Look through a range of picture books. Encourage the children to check whether the characters are SunSmart or not. Are they wearing hats? Do the hats give enough protection for their faces and the back of their necks? Are they wearing sunglasses? Is there any shade?

Then ask the children to design a SunSmart t-shirt for one of the book characters using the worksheet. Ask them to think about what the character likes and doesn't like when designing the t-shirt.

## Discussion

Talk about which characters were the best protected. Look at the t-shirt designs. Ask the children to explain why they think their book character would like to wear the t-shirt.

## Extension

Use fabric pens to decorate real t-shirts. This could be a good activity for World Book Day or for a school's Book Week.

