

Seven Stories, the Centre for Children's Books

What's On For Schools and Groups:

September 2007 – January 2008



Contents

Page

Introduction	3
Key Stage 1	6
Key Stage 2	8
Key Stage 3	10
Key Stage 4, 16+ and Adult Groups	12
General Information	13
How to Find Us	14



Children from Byker Primary with author Allan Ahlberg

"The most memorable part of the visit was seeing children, who are sometimes reluctant to share their ideas, shining and speaking up. Wonderful." Kirstie Hadden, Hemlington Hall Primary

Introduction

What's it all about?

Some people say there are only seven stories in the world but a thousand different ways of telling them. Seven Stories is about the thousand ways.

Here, visitors of all ages can journey into the amazing world of children's books where magical words and pictures are the inspiration for exhibitions, activities and events. Fostering the enjoyment of books and reading is at the heart of everything Seven Stories does.

Recognised as a new national home for children's literature, Seven Stories brings together original manuscripts and artwork from some of the nation's best loved children's books, to involve children, young people and their families, carers and educators in a unique exploration of creativity, literature and art.

All group visits to Seven Stories focus on enjoyable encounters with books and the creative processes that go into their making. Overall, we aim to provide an enjoyable educational experience which will lead to children and young people being inspired to read and explore their own creativity.

Exhibitions

We're Going on a Bear Hunt – Picturebook Adventures **Running until February 2008**

Created by Seven Stories in collaboration with Walker Books, this extremely popular exhibition showcases ten favourite picture books, including the classics *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen with illustrations from Helen Oxenbury, *Five Minutes' Peace* by Jill Murphy and *The Mousehole Cat* by Antonia Barber with illustrations from Nicola Bayley.

We offer specially-tailored sessions to accompany this exhibition for schools and groups from Early Years up to Key Stage Three. Read on to find out more!

Snozzcumbers and Frobscottle! The Wonderful World of Roald Dahl and Quentin Blake **New for July 2007**

The latest exhibition delivered by the Seven Stories team, working in collaboration with Quentin Blake promises to be as exciting and dramatic as the characters themselves.

Quentin Blake is famed for his lively, whimsical style, capturing the magic and sometimes dark humour of Roald Dahl's stories. Over 80 pieces will be on display in this exhibition – from the exceptionally bright Matilda and the infamous Willy Wonka to the incredibly Fantastic Mr Fox and the Dirty Beasts living up to their names.

We offer sessions to accompany this exhibition for schools and groups from Key Stage One up to Key Stage Three. Read on to find out more!

What's inside?

The centre is full of writers, artists, storytellers and fascinating characters, real and imaginary – a place where visitors can get involved in a wide variety of creative activities or just curl up with a book. Becoming a writer, artist, explorer, designer, storyteller, reader or collector is possible at Seven Stories, or being involved in dressing up and dramatic fun, creative writing and wordplay, drawing and illustration, storytelling and crafts.

Inside on its seven floors visitors will find:



Early Years

We're Going on a Book Hunt!

Explore the books in **We're Going on a Bear Hunt- Picturebook Adventures** including *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen, *Five Minutes' Peace* by Jill Murphy and *Can't You Sleep, Little Bear?* by Martin Waddell.

In the exhibition, children will have the opportunity to take a delightful journey full of sights, sounds and surprises. They will also participate in an exciting session incorporating a variety of themed activities, designed especially for foundation stage. Discover new books through story, hands-on activities, songs and rhymes.

Suitable for Nursery & Reception



Children in Bear Hunt gallery

Yoga Bugs

YogaBugs is an inspiring way of bringing the benefits of yoga to young children through exciting storybook adventures. The sessions are fun and creative and capture the child's imagination. The sessions incorporate some of the books found in the current exhibition **We're Going on a Bear Hunt- Picturebook Adventures**. Enjoy an hour's session of yoga in the Artist's Attic, and afterwards a guide around the gallery.



Limited sessions available: 7th June, 14th June, 21st June and 5th July. 11am – 12.30pm.

Suitable for Nursery & Reception



Children doing an activity in the Engine Room

Key Stage 1

Crazy Character Creations (KS1)

Together, Roald Dahl and Quentin Blake created some of the most memorable characters in British children's books. With his lively, whimsical style Quentin Blake captured the magic and sometimes dark humour of Roald Dahl's stories.

This offer encourages pupils to take inspiration from the work of Dahl and Blake in creating and bringing to life their own characters through fun and exciting drama and storytelling techniques.

In the exhibition, pupils will have the opportunity to "collect" their own colourful characters from the illustrations around the gallery. Using their zany imaginations and wacky ideas, pupils will enter the world of their characters and draw pictures or give brief descriptions to bring them to life.

Pupils will also participate in an inspiring session using different drama techniques to create a fantastic scene of storytelling theatre. They will be encouraged to appreciate the work of their peers through a short "show back" at the end of the session. This will provide an excellent stimulus for discussion back at school.

Suitable for years 1 & 2

Bringing Picturebooks to Life (KS1)

Explore the exhibition **We're Going on a Bear Hunt - Picturebook Adventures** and try some hands-on activities and games that bring picturebooks to life!

In the gallery, children will have the opportunity to take a delightful journey full of sights, sounds and surprises. They will also participate in a one hour session aimed at children in years 1 & 2. This fun-filled session involves children and teachers/group leaders in playing games, searching for clues, looking carefully at pictures and actively taking part in stories together.

This visit can provide inspiration for follow-up activities back in school, as well as encouraging children to further explore the authors and illustrators they have encountered.

Suitable for years 1 & 2



Child sampling our dressing up collection!

*"A veritable enrichment experience!"
Linda Mullen, Ivy Road Primary*

Storycatcher (KS1)

This experience provides children with a chance to visit the exhibition **We're Going on a Bear Hunt: Picturebook Adventures** and explore some of the books, artwork and manuscripts while collecting words and ideas for stories of their own. These ideas are built on later in the visit, as children develop characters, settings and stories using dressing-up and dramatic role play.

The visit provides an ideal lead-in to creative writing back in school, as well as inspiring children to explore further the books and stories they have encountered.

Suitable for years 1 & 2



Pupils from Tweedmouth Middle School and Central Newcastle High with author Berlie Doherty

"Every child came away with an idea about a story they could write." A. Crookston, Fellgate Primary

Key Stage 2

You'll Have Fun with this One! (KS2)

Together, Roald Dahl and Quentin Blake created some of the most memorable characters in British children's books. When Dahl had written the text for an interesting or particularly charismatic character, he would turn to Blake and say, "You'll have fun with this one!"

This session focuses on the writer/illustrator relationship between Blake and Dahl and how the two worked together.

Pupils will participate in a hands-on session that will give them a taster for working as writer and illustrator teams, looking at techniques to produce their own work. They will be given the chance to explore the partnership between Dahl and Blake by looking at different methods and styles of communication.

Working in groups, pupils will be given a piece of text describing a character and will be encouraged to imagine this character, developing their ideas using additional information, equipment and group discussion. Each group will end up with a finished illustration.

Suitable for years 3, 4, 5, 6

From Page to Stage (KS2)

This offer encourages students to take inspiration from the work of Dahl and Blake, creating their own characters and bring them to life using fun and exciting drama and storytelling techniques.

In the exhibition, pupils will have the opportunity to "collect" their own colourful characters from the illustrations around the gallery. Using their zany imaginations and wacky ideas, pupils will enter the world of their characters and draw pictures or give brief descriptions to bring them to life.

Pupils will also participate in an inspiring session using character bags, "hot-seating" and other dramatic techniques, ending with a fantastic scene of storytelling theatre.

Pupils will be encouraged to appreciate and evaluate their own work and the work of their peers through a "show-back" at the end of the session. This will provide an excellent stimulus for further discussion and evaluation back in the classroom.

Suitable for years 3, 4, 5, 6



Child dressed up as Willy Wonka

You're The Designer! (KS2)

What's your favourite picture book? As a class, pupils will vote on their favourite picture book before their visit to Seven Stories. When they visit the centre, the group will visit one of our exhibitions which showcases ten favourite picture books. They will then design a new gallery based on the book the class voted on.

Using the exhibition for inspiration, pupils will work together in groups to research, develop and design a gallery featuring their favourite book. They will also have the opportunity to use a variety of materials to build a 3D model of their gallery.

This visit can provide inspiration for follow-up Art and Design or writing activities back in school, as well as encouraging young people to explore further the authors and illustrators they have encountered.

Suitable for years 3, 4, 5, 6

Storycatcher (KS2)

This experience provides children with a chance to visit the exhibition **We're Going on a Bear Hunt - Picturebook Adventures** and explore some of the books, artwork and manuscripts while collecting words and ideas for stories of their own. These ideas are built on later in the visit, as children develop characters, settings and stories using dressing-up and dramatic role play.

The visit provides an ideal lead-in to creative writing back in school, as well as inspiring children to explore further the books and stories they have encountered.

Suitable for years 3, 4, 5, 6



Children doing an activity in the Artist's Attic

"The activities were exciting and well thought-out – full of good ideas for teachers too! We'll definitely be recommending Seven Stories!" Coulson Park First School

Key Stage 3

Communicate to Create (KS3: En1, En2, Art and Design)

Working in groups, students will take on different roles as writers and illustrators, looking at techniques to produce their own work. They will be given the chance to explore the partnership between Dahl and Blake by looking at different methods and styles of communication and evaluating what is most effective.

Students will contribute in different ways to their groups, adapting their speech to their listeners. They will need to take different views into account and modify their own views in the light of what others say.

Each group will be encouraged to vary their contributions appropriately, clarifying and synthesising others' ideas, taking them forward and building on them to reach conclusions, negotiating consensus or agreeing to differ.

Each group will end with a finished illustration.

Suitable for years 7, 8, 9



Pupils from Heaton Manor exploring gallery

From Page to Stage (KS3: En1 & Drama)

This offer encourages students to take inspiration from the work of Dahl and Blake, creating their own characters and bring them to life using a variety of drama and storytelling techniques to explore ideas, issues, texts and meanings. Students will use different ways to convey action, character, atmosphere and tension.

Students will look at character building, using techniques such as "hot-seating". They will also be given the chance to develop dramatic storytelling techniques in order to enable them to re-create a "scene" from one of Dahl's books, using their own characters.

Students will be encouraged to appreciate and evaluate critically their own work and the work of their peers through a "show-back" at the end of the session. This will provide an excellent stimulus for further discussion and evaluation back at school.

Suitable for years 7, 8, 9

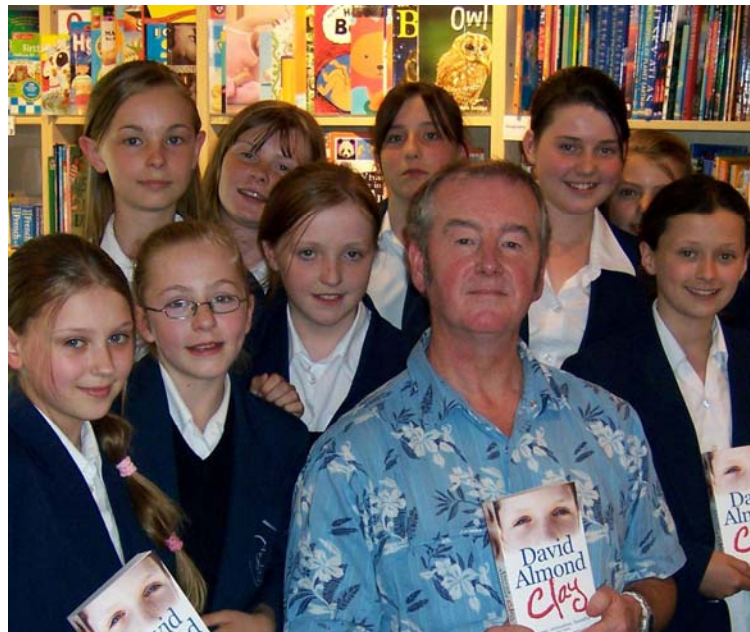
Creating a Picture Book (KS3: En1, En2 & Art and Design)

This experience provides students with a chance to discuss and question critically and select from the range of books, artwork and hands-on activities available at Seven Stories to help them develop ideas for independent work.

Over their visit, students are encouraged to explore both the galleries and other parts of the building, collecting information about the book-making process. Students will investigate, combine and manipulate these materials and images, taking account of purpose and audience. They will explore the roles of authors, illustrators, editors and designers in the creation of a children's book, applying and extending their experience of a range of materials and processes.

Students will analyse and evaluate their own and others' work, collaborating with others. Exploring a range of starting points for practical work, this visit can provide inspiration for follow-up Art and Design or writing activities back in school, as well as encouraging young people to explore further the authors and illustrators they have encountered.

Suitable for years 7, 8, 9



Pupils from Sacred Heart Catholic High School with author David Almond

"Staff were extremely knowledgeable and able to answer children's questions at all levels" S.Bell, Morpeth Teacher

Key Stage 4, 16+ and Adult Groups

Seven Stories Introductory Talk and Time to Explore

We can offer your group an introductory talk about the centre, and then provide time to explore the exhibitions, bookshop and other areas of the building, with an opportunity to ask questions at the end.

Coming Soon!

The option to add on a one hour hands-on session for your KS4, 16+ or Adult group. Your group will have an introductory talk and time to explore Seven Stories, with a chance to participate in a facilitated session with a member of Seven Stories' staff. Sessions will focus on either our collection or a creative activity that 'lets out your inner child'!



Pupils from Heaton Manor exploring the gallery

"Our guides were fantastic and very helpful. The bookshop is beautiful. We loved every minute of it!" Mrs Elsdon, Cedars Special School

General Information

Teacher Previews

To hear more about the workshops and preview the centre, sign up for one of our Teacher Previews. Previews are normally held once a month, on the second Tuesday, from 4.00 p.m. until 6.00 p.m. Admission is free, pre-booking essential.

Special Educational Needs/Access

Seven Stories staff will make every effort to accommodate visitors with special educational needs and access requirements. Please speak with a member of our Programme Team to discuss the needs of your group and how we can best adapt a visit for you. Seven Stories can provide a **Hazard Sheet** to help group leaders in carrying out their own risk assessment, but group leaders should note that the hazard sheet in itself does not constitute a risk assessment and should not be used as such.

Seven Stories Bookshop

Book ownership is a significant factor in raising interest in reading and levels of literacy. A visit to the Seven Stories Bookshop can round off your visit and ensure that children build on their experience by re-reading their favourite stories. As well as our extensive range of the very best books for children of all ages (at a starting price of only £1), we also have a great range of gifts and souvenirs to fit all pockets.

School Bookshop Accounts

With over 10,000 children's books published yearly in the UK alone, it can be difficult for teachers to find the right book at the right time - The Seven Stories Bookshop can help. Our knowledgeable staff will be happy to assist you on making a selection, help with ideas, particular aims you have or themes you would like to emphasise. You can receive discounts and also place orders by fax or email if you cannot come to the shop.

Seven Stories Cool Cat Café

Eating in the Cool Cat Café can prove to be a great experience for children on a school visit to Seven Stories. Our children's meal deal option provides a balanced, nutritionally varied meal, priced at £2.50 per child. Adults can be given a pre-order form with lunch options from our daily menu.

Booking

For more information please see our website at www.sevenstories.org.uk

For further enquires or to make a booking, please contact Alison Neill our Marketing and Bookings Assistant:

✉ alison.neill@sevenstories.org.uk ☎ 0845 271 0777 ext 707

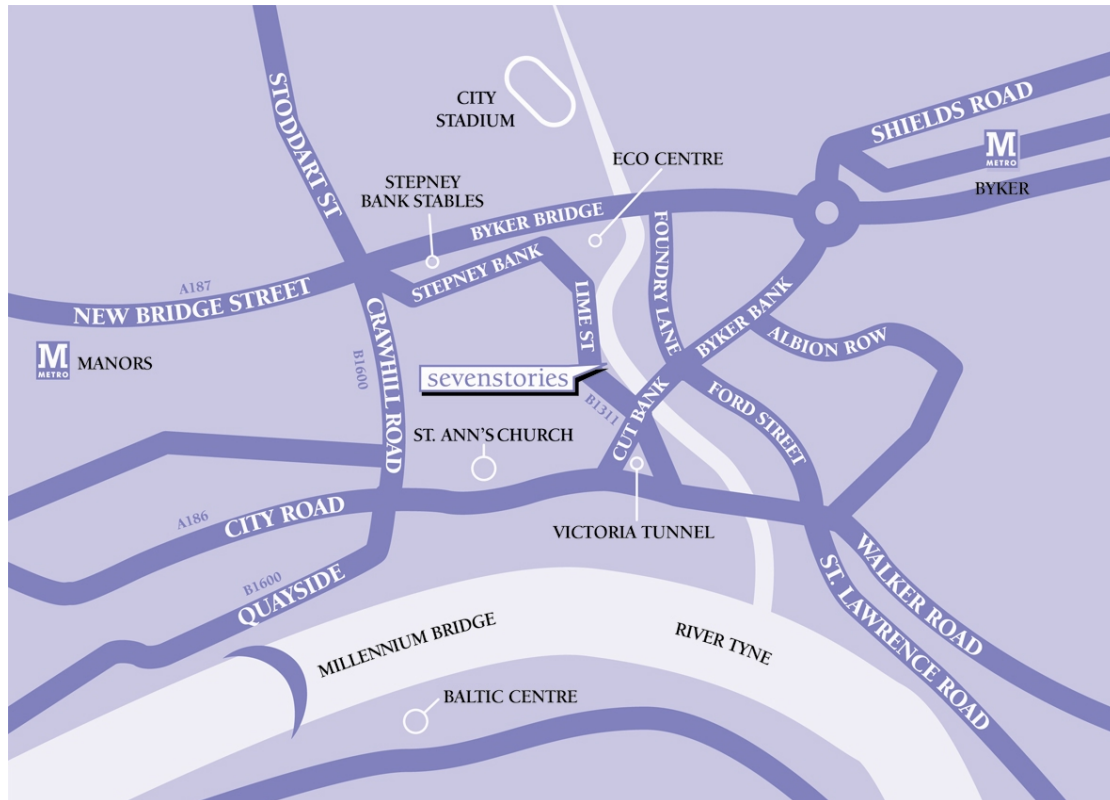
Cost

A school or group visit to Seven Stories costs **£3.50** per child with 2 FREE adult places for every 10 children.



Child with Seven Stories staff member in the Artist's Attic

How to Find Us



By Road

From the A1 North

From the Manors roundabout (at Warner Brothers Cinema Complex) take the **A193** towards Byker/Walker as far as St Dominic's Church. Turn right at the traffic lights (next to Tanners public house) then first left down Stepney Bank which leads onto Lime Street. Seven Stories can be found a short distance along on the left hand side next door to the Cluny.

From the A1 South

From **Gateshead** take the **A167** go over the Tyne Bridge keeping in the left hand lane. Branch left at the end of the bridge, then at 55 Degrees North roundabout take the 4th exit sign posted Walker, Wallsend. Follow the road as it bears 1st right towards the quayside and immediately left onto **A186** City Road. From **A186** City Road turn left into **B1311** Cut Bank (next to Dallas carpets) then left into Lime Street.

By Rail

Newcastle Central Station in the centre of Newcastle upon Tyne has excellent rail links with all major UK cities, for more information visit www.thetrainline.co.uk

Seven Stories is a 5 minute taxi ride from Central Station, there are also Metro and Bus Links.

By Metro

The nearest Metro Stations to Seven Stories are Manors and Byker, both on the yellow line to Tynemouth and the Coast. You can also park and ride, for more information on the Metro system visit www.nexus.org.uk

By Foot

Walking from the Manors Metro station

Exit the station, keep left onto Trafalgar St. Turn left onto Melbourne St (A186). At traffic lights turn left onto City Rd. Turn left onto Byker Bank, then left onto Lime St.