# English Challenges for KS2 children

How many challenges can you complete?  Tick them off as you go.

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| **Alphabet game** | **Just a minute** | **Yes and No** | **Riddles** | **Word Squares** |
| Choose a category (food, animals) or a word class (collective nouns, adverbs) etc. and write a list starting with each letter of the alphabet.<br>A = alligator<br>B = baboon<br>C = chameleon<br>*Add adjectives e.g. angry alligators, brilliant baboons, | Choose a topic that you know lots about and talk about it for 60 seconds without hesitating (no 'ums' or 'errs' or repetition!).<br><br>Just a Minute® | You have one minute to answer as many questions as you can.  The rules?<br><br>You cannot say yes or no.<br>You cannot nod or shake your head.<br>You must answer within 3 seconds.<br>You may not repeat an answer more than twice! | Can you solve this riddle?<br>*I come one in a minute,*<br>*Twice in a moment,*<br>*But never in a thousand years.  What am I?*<br><br>Write some of your own to challenge your family.<br><br>Answer: The letter M | c a b<br>a r e<br>b e d<br><br>These are trickier than you think because the same three words need to be read horizontally and vertically!<br><br>Can you make some of your own?<br><br>Source: Playing with Words by A Trussell Cullen |
| **Rebus Puzzles** | **Countdown** | **Film review** | **Boggle** | **Would you rather?** |
| MILL1ON<br><br>Can you solve this rebus puzzle?<br>Design some of your own to test your family. | PTOTIGFEP<br><br>You have 5 minutes.  How many words can make from the letters above? | Summarise a film you have recently watched.  How many stars would you award it out of 5 and why?<br><br>FILM | How many words can you find using letters that are next to each other?<br><br>M A P O<br>E T E R<br>D E N I<br>L D H C | Would you rather meet a dinosaur or an alien?<br><br>Make a list of the advantages and disadvantages of both to help you to decide. |

## Marvellous menu

Choose a character from a book/film. What sorts of things would they like to eat? Make a menu – describe each dish carefully and draw some pictures to illustrate.

## Palindromes 1

(Words or sentences that can be read forward or backwards!)

Some words are palindromes: *dad, madam, rotator, Hannah.*
Challenge yourself to find **5** palindromic words.

Sentence palindromes are fun to collect too. E.g. **No lemons, no melon.** (*It reads the same backwards and forwards*).

Can you invent one of your own?

## Palindromes 2

This poem can be read from the top line or from the bottom line.

This fierce and hungry shark I saw,
As I was swimming in the sea;
With vicious teeth and powerful jaw,
With beady eye that stared at me.
It seemed to move so powerfully.
Twelve feet long it was, or more.
As I was swimming in the sea,
This fierce and hungry shark I saw.

Challenge yourself to write your own!

Source: Playing with Words by A Trussell Cullen

## Anagrams 1

These are all anagrams of well known animals. Can you solve them?

- **star**
- **toga**
- **hear**
- **paws**
- **bolster**
- **raptor**
- **fowl**
- **shore**

## Word Staircases

A ten minute challenge. Select a letter at random and build a staircase, adding one more letter each time.

n
no
net
nine
nasty
nearly
naughty

How big will your longest word be?

## Kennings

A **kenning** is the process of using a two-word phrase in the place of a one-word noun.

Write a list of kennings to describe your favourite food treat.

E.g. Mouth-watering marvel, Tongue tantaliser, etc.

## Tongue Twisters

Learn this tongue twister off my heart:

A flea and a fly in a flue
Were trapped, so what could they do?
Said the fly, "Let us flee!"
Said the flea, "Let us fly!"
So the flew through a flaw in the flue.

## Scrambled Words

Unscramble these letters to make words connected with food:

- toracr
- lpape
- ootmta
- rippsna
- ryabrsetrw
- ccreubmu

## Write a Diary Entry

You could write a diary about what is happening to you.
**You could write a diary in role as one of your favourite book/film characters.**
You could completely invent a day imagining you are exploring deep space, etc.
**The choices are limitless.**

## Collections

Find the collective noun for these groups:

- sheep
- cows
- thieves
- owls
- crows
- ants
- lions
- fish

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