

# Activities CILIP Carnegie Medal Shortlist 2009

*Four short activities for shadowing groups to enjoy together*



## Activity One – Recommend for a friend

This summer, imagine you're selecting three books for three different friends. They only have room for one book to take with them, and you have to help choose!

Friends' profiles:

1 Male, aged 15, going on a backpacking holiday in India. Into the environment, sport, and art.

2 Female, aged 14, going on a family holiday to Florida. Loves magazines, movies and make-up.

3 Male or female, 16, going on a post-GCSE trip to Newquay. Into surfing, having a good time, and indie music.

Now choose a book from the shortlist for one or all of the holidaymakers. Explain why you've chosen the book you chose and why you think they'll enjoy it.

## Activity Two – Music to read books to

Choose your favourite of the shortlisted Carnegie books.

Think about the characters in the books and what happens to them.

Select three pieces of music that you associate with that book. They may sum up different aspects of a character's personality, or they could accompany three incidents in the plot, or it could sum up the whole book for you.

The music may reflect how the character develops in the course of the book, or a particular incident that takes place in the course of the narrative e.g. for **Ostrich Boys**, you may want to choose a song that Ross' mates might have wanted played at his funeral, or in **Black Rabbit Summer**, a song that might have been playing at the fairground, or the type of song that Stella Ross might listen to.

It can be any music, modern or classical. The piece you choose may have a serious link, or it could just be a humorous connection. It's your choice!

Play the music to the group and explain why you selected the music you chose. Talk about why you think it suited the characters from your book. They may not necessarily be pieces you like, but they may be old favourites.

If they do have any special meaning, explain the link.

Ask if anyone else can think of any songs that might be suitable. What would they choose?

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## Activity Three – Book Cookies

These easy-to-bake lemon biscuits go very well with reading books. Don't believe us? Just cook a batch, grab a book and see!

Pre-heat the oven to 180°C, gas mark 4

Makes eight biscuits

60g plain flour

35g melted butter

30g icing sugar

1 teaspoon lemon zest

How to do it

- Mix the flour, icing sugar, butter and lemon zest together.
- Roll the dough into eight little balls. Flatten them so they are about 5cm in diameter, nice and thin.
- Pop them on a lightly greased baking sheet and bake for 10 minutes or so (they should be just starting to colour). Leave to cool (they crisp as they cool down) on a wire rack for five minutes or so (if you can resist!).

## Activity Four – I went to the library

Test your powers of memory – and your knowledge of the shortlisted books!

1. Everyone sits round in a circle and the youngest person starts.
2. The action moves in a clockwise direction. Each person has to name an object, person or thing that features in their favourite Carnegie shortlisted book.

So you might begin with:

'I went to the library and borrowed a black rabbit.'

3. The action moves clockwise and the next person has to remember what the previous players said and add their own suggestion, eg

'I went to the library and borrowed a black rabbit and a bog child....'

And the next player:

'I went to the library and I borrowed a black rabbit, a bog child, and an astronaut suit...'

4. If you can't remember what one of the previous players has said or you get any of the items in the wrong order – you're out!
5. The winner is the last player left in the game.