



## STORIES FROM THE SEA

## SHIPWRECKS CLASSROOM ACTIVITY 8

### TWITTER TALES

#### Key learning outcomes

Summarizing and writing concisely

Writing for a purpose

#### Activity

A tweet on [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) can be a maximum of 140 characters long including spaces and punctuation. This forces writers to be creative and make the best use of the space available. Begin the activity by asking the children to explain what happens in a well known story. Establish a plot summary and write out the key plot points so the children have something to refer to. Using only 140 characters, the children must create a version of this summary. For younger children, this can be done as a group, with an adult typing out their version and checking its character length. More able children may wish to work in small groups or alone. As a general rule, 140 characters is about 25 to 30 words..

Young fish gets captured by a dentist. His dad goes to rescue him with a very forgetful friend. They find him and live happily ever after!

'Finding Nemo' in 138 characters



Smelly pirate doesn't wash for years. The Royal Navy finds him and he falls in the sea. Now he loves baths but he's still an evil pirate!

'The Pirate who didn't like baths' in 137 characters

Once they are comfortable condensing stories into tweets, move away from established stories and ask the children to invent their own.



#### More ideas

If the school has a twitter account, tweet their stories and encourage your followers to make their own inspired by the children.

Create a guessing game with famous stories: one child reads their tweet out and all the others have to guess what the story is.

Use their tweet stories as the basis for an extended piece of writing.



Supported using public funding by



ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

