

1. Tall Tales and Revolting Rhymes

Best-selling author Roald Dahl was born on September 13th, 1916. Even though some claim he was a big-headed man who loved to be the centre of attention, there is no doubting his contribution to contemporary literature, particularly for children. We therefore pay tribute to him this week in a "Who am I?" type worksheet. There are two pages to print. Click here to get your copies.

<http://www.insideout.net/warehouse/worksheets/september/IO063S-dahl.pdf>

Level

Intermediate

How to use the lesson

1. Tell your students they have three minutes to read a biography and guess who it is about. They will then have to answer some questions about the text.
2. Give each student a copy of Worksheet A and three minutes in which to read it.
3. After three minutes stop your students and ask them who they think the story is about. They might have guessed that it is Roald Dahl, but even if they have don't confirm it. Give each student a copy of Worksheet B and tell them that by answering the questions they can check their idea. Divide the class into pairs and ask students to work together without looking back at Worksheet A to answer the questions and write the answers in the grid.
4. Check answers in open class. If the questions have all been answered as below, the name *Roald Dahl* and the title of his autobiography *Boy* should read from top to bottom.

Answers:

- | | |
|----|--------------|
| 1 | Repton |
| 2 | Sofie |
| 3 | Llandaff |
| 4 | Harald |
| 5 | appendicitis |
| 6 | Disney |
| 7 | Tanzania |
| 8 | chocolate |
| 9 | Gremlin |
| 10 | Libya |
| 11 | Air Force |
| 12 | Felicity |

Follow up

Roald Dahl has written many short stories which are ideal for students of English. Look out for collections of these stories, one of which is *Kiss Kiss*. It contains a series of short stories with a 'twist in the tail'. For more ideas look at the website below for teachers.

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.roalddahl.com/getplugin/image.htm>

Roald Dahl's official website. Look out for the Teacher's Tips and the interview with Dahl.

<http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/dahl.htm>

Roald Dahl's teacher resource unit links

<http://www.roalddahlfans.com/mydahlbio.php>

A reasonably long biography

<http://www.geocities.com/Hollywood/Academy/4613/dahl.html>

A very long biography