



Free resources

Pictures for talk in primary science



A picture can be a very good stimulus for children to engage in effective talk in science.

Using pictures is an inclusive approach which facilitates high levels of participation. Pictures can also be used as a starting point for inquiry. The discussions the children have will generate questions that they want to investigate.

Asking the children carefully chosen questions about the picture will support them with learning to:

- *construct explanations and link their ideas with evidence*
- *make confident challenges to the ideas of others*
- *explore scientific terminology and use it with genuine understanding*

Pictures for talk in science activities are designed to be very open ended and usable with any age of children. The activities can be done as a quick ten minute starter, or extended into a longer and more in-depth lesson.

WHAT TO DO

Download the image overleaf by following the link to the Literacy Shed, and either display on a whiteboard or give children printed copies. Ask the children to discuss, in groups of three, the following question:

How do you think that the tree got inside the house? Why do you think this?

Other questions to generate and promote thinking and explaining

- What can you see that is living?*
- What can you see that is not living?*
- What is the house made from?*
- What do you think happened to its roof?*
- How might the house have looked different before?*
- What might it look like in the future?*
- How long do you think the tree has been inside the house?*
- What does the tree need to stay alive?*

Follow-on activity to extend thinking and explaining:

Ask the children to draw what they think this scene would have looked like 100 years ago.

Ask them to draw what they think it will look like in 100 years time.



[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD IMAGE FROM WWW.LITERACYSHED.COM](http://WWW.LITERACYSHED.COM)