

A writing activity from

Grimm & Co

World Book Day 2024

A Suitcase and A Pet



Re-imagining

This activity has been inspired by the book, “The Arrival” by Shaun Tan. There are two parts: a suitcase and a pet.

You will need:

- Paper
- Something to write or draw with, such as a pen or pencil
- (Optional) Felt-tips, if you wish to add some colour to your drawings
- (Optional) A copy of the book, “The Arrival” by Shaun Tan

Part one A Suitcase

Imagine you also need to leave your home for a long journey. You’re travelling to a faraway place you’ve never been to before. You’re only able to take one suitcase.

What would you put in it?

What are the most precious things that you wouldn’t want to leave home without?

Would they fit in the suitcase?

How do you feel about not being able to take everything?

Take a few moments to scribble down your items and thoughts. If you prefer, you can draw a suitcase and the items you’d pack in it.

Part two A Pet

Now we're going to create a pet or companion!
How big will your pet be? Does it fit into the palm of your hand, or is it as big or bigger than you? What does it look like? Is it plain or colourful? Does it have any special features, or magical powers? What is its personality like? What kind of creature is it? How do you get on with it?

When you have a clear picture of what your pet looks like, start writing or drawing.
You can also do both!

Lastly, will you give your pet a name?

Optional bonus activity:

If you want to write more, you can start with what a typical day with your pet might look like.
Does it wake you up in the morning? Does it go out with you or does it stay at home? What does it eat?

And finally...

Share your pets, descriptions, and pictures, with us! We'd love to see them! Do this by taking a photo of work, or even an audio or video recording of you reading it aloud (you could also get someone else to read it aloud for you).

You can post on your writing and pictures on social media, tagging us @grimmandco, or email your work to info@grimmandco.co.uk.

Have fun creating your pets!

