

# What to do today

*IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.*

## 1. Reading poetry

- **Read** 'The Torch' by Michael Rosen or watch him performing his poem <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnrHpytIMRM> .
- Is there a time when you accidentally broke something like Michael did? How did you feel?

## 2. Apostrophes for possession

- **Look at** the learning reminder – apostrophes. Read through to remind yourself how to use apostrophes to show possession (ownership / belonging).
- Now **complete** the apostrophes for possession activity sheet.
- Walk around your house, making up pairs of sentences with possessive apostrophes, e.g. This bed belongs to the dog. This is the dog's bed'. **Write these** on the blank 'pairs of sentences' sheet.

## 3. Performing Poetry

- **Read** 'Fork Week' by Michael Rosen.
- **Practise** reading it aloud, think about which words to put emphasis on as you read.
- **Perform** the poem to someone in your home. Perhaps they can film you performing? Perform to a relative on Skype or FaceTime.

## Try the Fun-Time Extras

- Challenge someone else in your house to play an apostrophe game with you: offer one sentence of a pair before asking your playing partner to work out the other sentence, e.g. 'This is the pencil of Ross.' becomes 'This is Ross's pencil.'
- Explore Michael Rosen's YouTube channel and watch him perform other poems and read stories <https://www.youtube.com/MichaelRosenOfficial> .

## The Torch

I nagged my mum and dad for a torch.  
'Oh go on. I'd love a torch.  
One of those ones with black rubber  
round them.

Go on. Pleeeeeeease.'  
It was no good. I wasn't getting  
anywhere.

Then came my birthday.  
On the table was a big box  
In the box  
A torch.  
My dad took it out the box.  
'You see that torch,' he says  
'It's waterproof.  
That is a waterproof torch.'

Waterproof. Wow!

So that night I got into the bath  
And went under water swimming with it.  
Breathe in,  
Under the water,  
switch on  
search for shipwrecks  
and treasure.  
Up, breathe  
Under again  
exploring the ocean floor.

Then the torch went out.

I shook it, banged it but it wouldn't go.  
I couldn't get it to go again.

My birthday torch.  
So I got out, dried myself off  
Put on my pyjamas and went into the  
kitchen.

'The – er – torch won't work. It's broken.'  
And my dad says,  
'What do you mean, "it's broken"?'  
It couldn't have just broken.  
How did it just break?'  
'I dunno, it just went off.'

'I don't believe it. You ask him a simple  
question  
and you never get a simple answer.  
You must have been  
Doing something with it.'  
'Just try telling the truth, will you?'  
How  
Did  
It  
Break?'  
'I was underwater swimming with it.'

'Are you mad?  
When I said the torch is waterproof  
I meant it keeps the rain off.  
I didn't mean you could go deep-sea  
diving with it.  
Ruined. Completely ruined.  
For weeks and weeks he nags us stupid  
that he wants  
One of these waterproof torches  
And then first thing he does is wreck it.  
How long did it last?  
Two minute?  
Three minutes?  
These things cost money, you know.  
Money.'

I felt so rotten.  
My birthday torch.

## The Torch – continued

At the weekend, he says,  
We're going into Harrow to take the  
torch back.

We walk into the shop,  
My dad goes up to the man at the  
counter

And says:  
'You see this torch.  
I bought it from you a couple of weeks  
ago  
It's broken.'

So the man picks it up.  
'It couldn't have just broken,' says the  
man,

'How did it break?'  
And my dad says,  
'I dunno, it just went off.'  
'Surely you must have been doing  
something  
with it.'

No, no, no,' says my dad,  
'it just went off.'  
'Come on,' says the man, 'these torches  
don't just break down.'  
So I said  
'Well, actually, I was in the – '  
and I got a hard kick on the ankle from  
my dad.  
'I was in the, you know, er kitchen and it  
went off.'

So the man said that he would take it out  
the back  
To show Len.

He came back a few minutes later and  
said that Len  
Couldn't to get it to work either  
So he would send it back to the makers.

'You'll have to have a new one,' he says.  
'I should think so too,' says my dad.  
'Thank YOU.'

Outside the shop  
My dad says to me,  
'What's the matter with you?  
Are you crazy?  
You were going to tell him all about your  
underwater  
Swimming fandango, weren't you?  
Blabbermouth!'

Michael Rosen

# Learning Reminder - Apostrophes

## Apostrophes can show Possession

We can use an **apostrophe** to show ownership.

This is Michael.



This torch is owned by Michael.



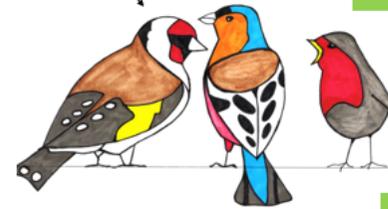
We can show ownership by adding 's on the end of the owner.

It is Michael's torch

## Apostrophes can show Possession

We can use an **apostrophe** to show ownership.

Here are the birds.



This seed is for the birds.

If the owning noun is plural, you don't add s. You just add the apostrophe.

It is the birds' seed.

Do not...

**REMEMBER....**

**Apostrophes can also be used to replace a missing letter**

Don't feed the birds

would have...

had not...



They would've found food for themselves if you hadn't fed them.

it is...

there is...

It's only good to feed them in winter when there's no food around!

The **apostrophe** is in the place where the letter or letters are left out.

## Apostrophes for Possession – Pairs of Sentences

The torch of Michael was a prized possession.

*Michael's torch was a prized possession.*

Torches for children are often made of plastic.

Equipment of soldiers often includes underwater torches.

The bulb in the torch did not work when it was wet.

The batteries in torches run out quickly.

## ANSWERS - Apostrophes for Possession – Pairs of Sentences

The torch of Michael was a prized possession.

*Michael's torch was a prized possession.*

Torches for children are often made of plastic.

*Children's torches are often made of plastic.*

Equipment of soldiers often includes underwater torches.

*Soldiers' equipment often includes underwater torches.*

The bulb in the torch did not work when it was wet.

*The torch's bulb did not work when it was wet.*

The batteries in torches run out quickly.

*Torches' batteries run out quickly.*

## Apostrophes for Possession – Pairs of Sentences Blank Sheet

Walk around your house, making up pairs of sentences with possessive apostrophes,  
e.g. 'This bed belongs to the dog. This is the dog's bed'.

Write these down in pairs below.






## Fork Week

You're going to lay the table.

You go to the drawer to get the knives, forks and spoons.

You find the forks

You find the spoons

but the knives – they're all gone.

You look everywhere

the sink, the table, the draining board

but they're all gone.

A few days later, it's the same

only it's the spoons this time

and all the knives have come back.

My brother,

he's worked it out,

he says they take it in turns to disappear.

"It's alright," he says,

We won't see another fork till Thursday,

it's Fork Week."

*Michael Rosen*