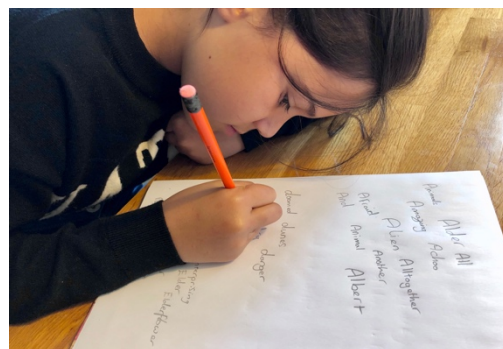


MATERIALS:

- White paper (three sheets of paper for each participant at least)
 - Pencils, pens and colouring pencils
- acrostic poems – we highly recommend “The Lost Words” (Robert MacFarlane and Jackie Morris, published by Hamish Hamilton) – many schools have a copy of this in their library.

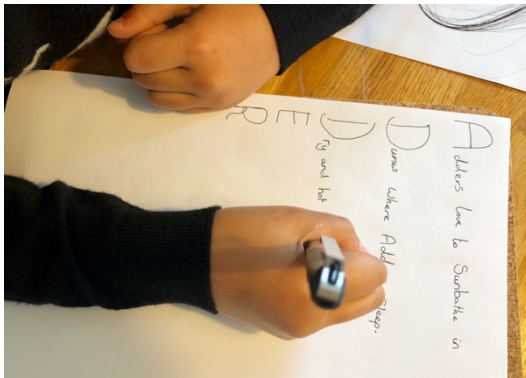
MAKE IT!

- 1 Introduce the children to the idea of acrostic poetry (using the letters of a word to start each line of the poem). There is a wonderful adder poem in “The Lost Words” you can use as an example.
- 2 After giving them some examples of poems, ask them to write down all the words they can think of relating to adders or snakes. Use the letters of the word ‘adder’ to guide them- ‘A’ words, ‘D’ words and so on.



MAKE IT!

3 On a draft piece of paper, ask them to write the word 'ADDER' in large letters vertically down the left hand side of the sheet, giving themselves plenty of room. They can then start experimenting with their poem.



4 Once they are happy with their poem, they can write out a tidy version and add pictures if they wish. After some engagement work, ask some of them to read theirs out and see if they still agree with what they have written, or do they know more about adders now? Do they feel any differently to when they wrote the poem? Can they write another? A great discussion point!

