




## Literacy Year 2


### Summer Term Week 1

This week the children are going to be learning about **non-chronological reports**. This is a type of writing that gives the reader information on a particular subject. The poster below gives some examples of this type of text, how it would be structured and some of the language features it may include.

### Non-Chronological Reports

We write non-chronological reports to give people information on a particular subject.

Examples	Structure	Language Features
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• non-fiction book</li><li>• information leaflet</li><li>• fact sheet or fact file</li></ul> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• use a title</li><li>• write an introduction</li><li>• put your information into sections</li><li>• give each section a sub-heading</li><li>• use facts that you have researched</li><li>• include pictures with captions</li></ul> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"></div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• use formal language, e.g. habitat, astronaut, monarch</li><li>• remember your full stops and capital letters</li><li>• add apostrophes to show possession, e.g. The Queen's birthday.</li><li>• use 'that', 'because', 'when' and 'if' to create longer sentences</li></ul> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"></div>

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We hope that by completing the following activities, children will have made their own non-chronological reports by the end of the week. This would be really good in the form of an information book where a series of pages can be joined together to make the finished product. Skip to the end for ideas to make it fun!

#### **Activity 1**

- Please read through the Guinea Pigs PowerPoint with your child (supporting their reading as necessary). Take the quiz at the end.
  
- Ask your child to suggest an animal that they would like to write a non-chronological report about. Once that's been decided, help your child to research for information. I suggest you use a child friendly search engine such as [www.kidzsearch.com](http://www.kidzsearch.com) or [www.kidtopia.info](http://www.kidtopia.info)
  
- Make notes of interesting facts that you want to include.

## Activity 2

- We're going to start our writing today so go back to the introduction page (shown below) and talk about how it is set out. I've put some information in boxes for talking points:

The **heading** lets the reader know what the following information is about.

A general **paragraph** about where they are from, and how and when guinea pigs came to Europe.

### → **Introduction**

Guinea pigs are not actually pigs, they are rodents. ←

They originally came from the Andes Mountains in South America. They were brought to Europe by Spanish sailors, returning from South America during their travels to the new world, in the 15th century.



An interesting **opening**

**sentence** about the animals. It draws the reader in.

- Following this format, give your page a heading - **Introduction**. Now write your opening sentence to grab the reader's attention. Talk about it and try to improve it before writing it down. The next paragraph should give some general information-where they came from, if they live in different places now etc.
- Your child can now draw a picture to complete the page.

## Activity 3

- Review yesterday's writing and make improvements if necessary.
- Today's writing is about habitats, so review the relevant page in the PowerPoint.

Heading

### → **Habitat - Where do Guinea Pigs Live?**

In the wild, guinea pigs tend to make their habitats in rocky areas, grasslands and forests. When they live in the wild, guinea pigs go around in herds. ←

Guinea pigs, kept as pets, can be kept indoors or outdoors. They need a home that has a large shelter and exercise area, which should be strong and secure and free from draughts.



A paragraph about the animals in the wild.

A paragraph about the animal as a pet. If it isn't a suitable pet, this could be a paragraph about zoos or other places in captivity for example.

- Help your child to research the habitats of their chosen animal. Make sure you write down important words that you want to spell correctly.
- You should then support your child to write their heading and two paragraphs about their chosen animal's habitats.
- They can now draw some pictures to finish their page.

#### **Activity 4**

- Review yesterday's writing and make improvements if necessary.
- Today's writing is about appearance, so review the relevant page in the PowerPoint.




Heading

→ Appearance - What Do They Look Like?

Use of formal language.

There are lots of different breeds of guinea pig and they come in lots of colours and fur textures.

Some are short-haired, some are long-haired and some are fuzzy.

- Help your child to research the appearance of their chosen animal.
- You should then support your child to write their heading and two paragraphs about their chosen animal's appearance.
- They can now draw some pictures to finish their page.

### **Activity 5**

- Review yesterday's writing and make improvements if necessary.
- Today's writing is about diet, so review the relevant page in the PowerPoint.

The diagram shows a PowerPoint slide titled "Diet - What Do They Eat?" with three paragraphs of text. The first paragraph is highlighted in green and contains the words "actually" and "get" in blue boxes. The second paragraph is highlighted in pink and contains the words "vegetarians" and "love" in blue boxes. The third paragraph is highlighted in light blue and contains the words "constantly", "growing", "gnaw", and "coarse" in blue boxes. A small image of a guinea pig eating vegetables is shown in the bottom right corner of the slide. To the left of the slide, a box explains that words are chosen carefully for effect and highlighted in the text with a blue box. To the right, a box explains that each paragraph is about a different part of their diet, with a list: 1. about water, 2. about vegetables, 3. about teeth. Arrows point from the text boxes to the corresponding parts of the slide.

Heading → **Diet - What Do They Eat?**

Guinea pigs will eat and drink day or night. They need to drink water to stop getting thirsty but **actually** get a lot of water from eating grass.

They are **vegetarians** and love green grass and vegetables.

Guinea pigs' teeth are **constantly** growing and they always need things to **gnaw** on to grind them down so love eating **coarse** foods like grass and hay.

Each paragraph is about a different part of their diet.

1. about water
2. about vegetables
3. about teeth

Words are chosen carefully for effect. I highlighted them in the text with a blue box.

- Help your child to research the diet of their chosen animal.
- You should then support your child to write their heading and two or more paragraphs about their chosen animal's diet.
- They can now draw some pictures to finish their page.

### **Making it fun**

- Try typing the information to make your book, instead of writing it.
- Use felt tips or other colours to write with.
- Decorate your work.
- Add interesting fact boxes on some of your pages.
- Research how to make your pictures pop-up off your page.