

King kangaroo

Things to collect and words to display

kangaroo	keep	key
kick	kind	king
kite	koala	kookaburra

Rhymes and jingles, songs and books

Mick Inkpen, *Kipper's A to Z: An Alphabet Adventure*, Hodder Children's Books, 2000, UK
Kookaburra Sits in the Old Gum Tree

Reading the big book

Looks like

In some states and territories, the letter **k** is a difficult one for students to write correctly. Use masking tape to 'write' a lower case letter **k** on the ground. As you do this, emphasise to students the correct starting point and the correct formation. Next, explain to students that kings must have very good posture. Tell students that kings must practise walking elegantly and with good posture, by balancing a book on their head as they walk. (Substitute a small bean bag for the purpose of this activity.) Have students take it in turns to walk along the letter **k** as if they were forming it with their pencil. Students should do this with a bean bag on their head and take small elegant steps.

Making noises

Have students dramatise the story line of *King kangaroo*. Choose a narrator, a kangaroo, a king and two koalas. Remind all remaining students that good audience members are good listeners. After the narrator reads each line, have students act out what is being said. Emphasise that kicking needs to be 'pretend or non-contact' kicking only. Reassure students that kissing needs to be 'pretend, non-contact kissing' too. Praise students who make appropriate sounds as they act such as 'ahh...ya' when they are kicking or smoochy noises when they are kissing. Have students change places with audience members and allow all students to have a turn at acting.

Wonderful words

Help students notice that some words that start with the letter **c** also start with the same /k/ sound as words that start with **k**. Have students repeat the 'Koalas like to kiss' line substituting another animal that starts with /c/ or /k/. Students can sit in a circle and take it in turns to say '_____like to kiss.' Examples could include: 'Camels/ caterpillars/ cows/ crabs/ carrots/ kookaburras like to kiss.'

Letting them loose with the little books

Odd one out

Ask students to focus on the beginning sounds in words. Say the words king, kangaroo and kiss and ask students which sound they can hear at the start of each word. Have students think of some more words that start with /k/. Show students **Worksheet 1**. Explain to them that they need to look at each of the pictures and say the word aloud. Students should then find the picture that is the odd one out, or the one that has a different beginning sound. Students can put a circle around this one.

Syllable clap

Have students bounce like kangaroos to determine the number of syllables on each page.

Starts with

If possible, copy **Worksheet 2** onto card. Have students cut out each of the rectangles to make individual cards. Explain to students that they are going to use these cards to play a game of Snap! Students will need a partner. Each student shuffles their cards and places them face down in front of them. Players take it in turns to place a card on a centre pile. If two consecutive cards start with the same sound, players race to say 'Snap!' and place their hand over the pile of cards. The winner takes all of the cards and the game continues until one player has all cards.

Craft ideas

Students can make kites.