



Weird Facts

When Gwion drinks the potion he suddenly learns every fact there ever was to know. From how colours are made to the history of famous paintings and the bodily functions of a starfish. Now, how many weird facts can you find?

Step 1: *Most children by school age will be aware of “Googling” – they will be less sure how best to use a search engine. This is the skill we’ll be working on today.*

Start by re-watching [this section](#) of the play:



Step 2: **Group Challenge**

Set a 3 minute timer. Ask each group to think of as many “Weird world facts” as they can. *What do you already know? What have you learned at school? What interesting facts have you read at home or been told by your grandparents? What about facts you’ve learned from TV?*

When the timer is complete, let each group present their weird facts in turn.

Literacy

Framework

Identify key words to search for information on-screen, and modify search words as necessary.

Progression

Statements

Humanities

I have been curious and made suggestions for possible enquiries and have asked and responded to a range of questions during an enquiry.

The group with the most interesting facts win a First Three Drops Sticker each.

Step 3: Introducing “The Search Engine”

Before introducing what a search engine is, ask the children where they tend to find their facts. *If your family want to know something where do they look? What do they do?*

When you get the answer, introduce the search engine on the class screen or interactive board.

Step 4: Now for the fun part. *We want to find some weird facts, so we need some weird questions!*

Encourage the children to think of questions that might help them find out about the world. Perhaps they have a burning question or perhaps they want to be as weird as they can.

Offer these examples:

- *How often does a turtle clean its teeth?*
- *What’s the smelliest cheese in the whole world?*
- *Who lives in the world’s smallest house?*

Step 5: Key Words

To help the children learn about key words, use one of our examples– How often does a turtle clean its teeth?

Firstly, type in the full question: We may well get the answer, but the typing might take a while.

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Now explain that search engines look for words not full sentences. Which words in our question are important and relevant? Try to filter them down to *“Turtle clean teeth”*

Re-search, do we still get the answer? Clue: The first website tells us turtles don't have teeth.

Step 6: Now that the children are familiar with key words, return to their questions. Ask them to pick out the key words, then set about their online research!

N.B although pupils may need help reading the websites, today's skill is about filtering key words. Consider smaller groups with reading support

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