



King Oswald's Raven

Creating a Quill



In the story of Saint Oswald, the Raven asked the King to gild his feathers, this means he wanted them to be covered with gold! In this task you'll be making your very own Quill inspired by that cheeky and chatty raven!

YOU WILL NEED

- Feather(s)
- Paintbrush
- Palette (Or a piece of card)
- A Cup of Water
- Paint (Gold works very well, but any coloured acrylic should do the job)
- Scissors
- Something to lean your feather on whilst painting

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Pick a spot to paint your feathers.
2. If you have more than one feather, pick the biggest for your quill, but feel free to experiment with different patterns on as many as you like.
3. If you're stuck for pattern ideas have a go at painting stripes, spots or swirls!
4. Try painting one of your feathers completely with one colour, but remember to make sure you have enough time to go over with a few coats to cover all the original colour of the feather!
5. Let your feathers dry.
6. Now it's time to turn the feather into a quill, this step requires scissors so please ask a parent or carer to supervise or help you.
7. Cut the tip of your feather at a forty five degree angle so its sloped across.
8. Turning your scissors make a small cut upwards from the part you've just cut.
9. You now have your own Oswald Inspired Quill! Now its time get drawing and writing!
10. If you don't have ink to hand, simply add food colouring to water to create your own!

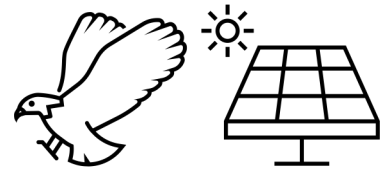
This activity sheet was made by Hannah Saunders as part of the Being Human Festival, the UK's only national festival of the humanities. For further information please see beinghumanfestival.org and oswaldusrex.co.uk/animation





King Oswald's Raven

Creating your own Helpful Beast



In the story of Saint Oswald the Raven is unusual because he has the power of speech. Medieval books known as 'bestiaries' give us an idea of what wonderful and fanciful creatures people believed existed. In this task you'll be creating your very own Helpful Beast!

YOU WILL NEED

Something to draw with - Crayons, Pens, Paints, etc.

Paper or Card

Access to the internet

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Go on to the following website:

<https://parker.stanford.edu/parker/catalog/gs233db8425>

2. Click Gallery View and scroll down. When you start to see pages containing pictures you're close!

3. Have a look at the pictures of Medieval Beasts and see if you can guess what animals they are.

4. Think about a modern day problem or challenge, maybe it's to do with the environment, or maybe its to do with making sure nobody goes hungry, have a think!

5. Now what you need to do is think of how a helpful beast might be a solution to that problem, for example, maybe its a type of bird who flies around with solar panelled wings!?

6. Once you've got an idea you're going to draw your beast. Does it look like a normal creature, or is it made up of lots of different animals?

7. If you get stuck at all have a browse through this website, it's the same manuscript/book shown in the link above, but you can look up animals by name and find out information about them!

<http://bestiary.ca/manuscripts/manubeast937.htm>

8. If you have other ideas for exciting helpful beasts, draw them too!

9. Now it's time to give your beast a name!

10. If you want to really bring your beast to life, write an explanation of how it solves a problem and what its attributes are. Well Done! You've just created a helpful beast!

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