

Spooky Cards



a locked room

a creaky stair

a lonely castle

a blown out candle

A set of cards with themes found in horror/ghost stories which can be used in a variety of ways to encourage discussion, creativity and collaborative writing.



a trapdoor

**smell of unopened
rooms**

a prisoner

Last updated: 21st November 2022

Webaddress: www.collaborativelearning.org/spookycards.pdf

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Spooky Cards Instructions



First work in pairs.

You will each receive a spooky card with a spooky theme.

Does it remind you of a story you know?

A memory of a frightening experience?

A film you have seen?

A person you once met?

Share this knowledge with your partner.

Can you think of a story that include both of your themes?

Now join another pair and take turns to explain what you have thought about and created.

Can you think of/up a story that includes all four themes?

All four of you take notes and write down a short draft version of the story you have thought up. Try to make it detailed enough to be able to tell your story together or alone to another group or to the whole class.

Some suggestions for using these and similar cards.

There are more than enough cards so that every one in the class can have a different card. (See our summary sheet on [transformations](#)) You may want to select pairs/groups in advance and you can speed up pairing by putting coloured dots on the cards.

The idea here is to encourage the sharing of information, the finding of links, formulating questions and building confidence in talking with enough volume and confidence to larger and larger groups. We would strongly discourage moving to writing too soon, and if they write at this stage, it should be collaborative. We think it is a better idea to introduce a matched individual writing task after a decent interval (a week - 10 days?) to allow time for reflection.

This session could be followed by opportunities to do further research on the items or to research new items. Pairs or groups could then feed back what they have discovered to the rest of the class orally with pictures and diagrams or finally as a poster.

We would like to hear of any other ways in which you have used the cards. During lockdown cards like this have provided good opportunities for families to talk and work together.

Spooky Cards

an ancient feud	a map
an apparition	a mirror
a bloodstain on the floor	a mountain road
a blown out candle	a mystery key
a clock ticking	a nightmare
an ancient bottle	noises in the night
a clock striking	no moon, no stars
cobwebs	an open book on a table
a cold wind	a prisoner
a creaky stair	a ravine
a dark forest	a ruin
a deserted house	a scream
a dream	a secret passage
an empty boat	a severed finger
fierce gust of wind	a silent servant
a flash of lightning	a shivery feeling
fog	a skull
footsteps	a sliding panel
a half eaten meal	a small pile of ash
a heavy rainstorm	smell of unopened rooms
a hidden room	sudden cold air
a lifelike portrait	a suit of armour
a light in the window	three knocks on the door
a lock of hair	a trapdoor
a locked room	a thunderclap
a lonely castle	a tower
a loose floorboard	an unfinished message
	a wardrobe
	a yawning abyss

What other items would you like to add?

an ancient feud

an apparition

**a bloodstain on the
floor**

a blown out candle

a clock ticking

an ancient bottle

a clock striking

a clock ticking

cobwebs

a cold wind

a creaky stair

a dark forest

a deserted house

a dream

an empty boat

**a fierce gust of
wind**

a flash of lightning

fog

footsteps

a half eaten meal

a heavy rainstorm

a hidden room

a lifelike portrait

**a light in the
window**

a lock of hair

a locked room

a lonely castle

a loose floorboard

a map with a cross

a nightmare

noises in the night

no moon, no stars

**an open book on a
table**

a prisoner

a ravine

a ruin

a scream

a secret passage

a severed finger

a silent servant

a shivery feeling

a skull

a sliding panel

a small pile of ash

**smell of unopened
rooms**

sudden cold air

a suit of armour

**three knocks on
the door**

a trapdoor

a thunderclap

a tower

**an unfinished
message**

a wardrobe

a yawning abyss