



A brief biography of poet Tony Mitton can be found here:

http://www.jubileebooks.co.uk/jubilee/magazine/authors/tony_mitton/tony_mitton.asp

Activity 1

1. Ask the children if they know about the Arabian Nights. Show a picture of Aladdin; bring books to the class.

Show the flashcards to the children saying the words, then, put them on the board.

Note: two of the flashcards are not in the poem.

2. The Poem

Here is the poem, with some suggested actions for 'performing' it.

Arabian Nights

Poem	Actions
Here is a ring	<i>(make ring out of index finger & thumb)</i>
On a silver dish	<i>(place it on open palm)</i>
Put it on your finger	<i>(put ring on other index finger)</i>
And make a wish	<i>(throw hands open in wonder)</i>
Here is a genie	<i>(show flashcard)</i>
Who waits in a flask	<i>(cup both hands, thumbs apart)</i>
If you want a favour	<i>(look enquiringly)</i>
Whisper and ask	<i>(mime whisper into thumb gap)</i>
Here is a carpet	<i>(open hand, palm upwards)</i>
That knows how to fly	<i>(flap palms of hand like wings)</i>
Climb on. Sit tight	<i>(walk first two fingers of other hand onto carpet & pause)</i>
Up into the sky!	<i>(raise carpet, take-off!)</i>

ACTIVITY 2
Listening and matching

[Go to the recording of the poem](#)

Language: ring, silver dish, flask, carpet, golden necklace, golden coins, Aladdin

Material: MP3 player, Worksheet 1

1. Ask the children to listen to the poem by Tony Mitton.
2. Hand out Worksheet 1.
3. Ask children to match the pictures to the blanks
4. Ask children to read silently as they listen to the poem, for the second time.
5. Ask children to listen for the third time for correction.

ACTIVITY 3
Filling in

Language: ring, silver dish, flask, carpet, golden necklace, golden coins, Aladdin;

Material: MP3 player, Worksheet 2

1. Ask children to listen to the poem by Tony Mitton.
2. Hand out worksheet 2.
3. Ask children to read the gapped poem and then write the missing words.
4. Ask children to read silently as they listen to the poem, for the second time.
5. Ask children to listen for the third time for correction.

ACTIVITY 4

Miming and guessing

Write out sentences from the poem on strips of paper and mix them up.

VARIATION 1

Ask the children to say the poem in order, each one saying their line.

VARIATION 2

In groups, children choose a sentence and take turns to mime it.

The others try to guess the sentences they are miming.

ACTIVITY 5

Performing

The children read the poem aloud, they mime it as they read and video each other as they do this.

Allow the children the opportunity to perform the poem with a rap rhythm.

Encourage the use of body sounds (claps, stomps and snaps) and simple percussion instruments (rice or gravel in containers, pencils and so on.)