

# Monster shopping trip

## Topic

Birthday presents

## Aims

To develop and practise:

- vocabulary: vocabulary connected with birthdays and shopping
- structure: present simple (story telling)
- integrated skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing

## Age

Primary (7–11 years)

## Time

90 minutes approximately

## Materials

1. Story, activity sheet, answers and transcript: 'Monster shopping trip'  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/short-stories/monster-shopping-trip>
2. Flashcards  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/flashcards/birthdays-flashcards>
3. Word game: 'Birthdays'  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/word-games/birthdays>
4. Writing practice: 'Birthday party invitation'  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/writing-practice/birthday-party-invitation>
5. Song, activity sheet, answers and lyrics: 'Shopping song'  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/songs/shopping>
6. Worksheets: 'Birthdays' and 'Presents'  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/worksheets/birthdays>  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/worksheets/presents>
7. Your turn: 'Birthdays' and 'Presents'  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/your-turn/birthdays>  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/your-turn/presents>
8. Craft activities: 'Birthday card' and 'Birthday calendar'  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/crafts/birthday-card>  
<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/crafts/birthday-calendar>

For a complete list of all 'Birthdays' and 'Shopping' content on LearnEnglish Kids, click here:

<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/category/topics/birthdays>

<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/category/topics/shopping>

## Introduction

In this lesson, learners will be introduced to the popular story 'Monster shopping trip'. They will watch the story, complete comprehension activities, and review and re-enact the story. Finally learners can do some extension work based on the story, creating role plays and writing about their ideal birthday party.

## Procedure

<b>1. Introduce the topic (5 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show or draw a picture of a cake and present on the board. Elicit what special day it is (birthday).</li> <li>• Brainstorm ideas of typical birthday presents and ask learners to tell you about presents they got or would like for their last or next birthday.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Focus on the story: gist (10 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tell learners the title of the story ('Monster shopping trip'). Ask them what they think the story might be about.</li> <li>• Play the story. Ask learners if they were right. Give them part 1 of the activity sheet: tick the presents the monsters buy for Hairy Henry. Check answers as a class.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Focus on the story: comprehension (10–15 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learners look at part 2 of the activity sheet: choose the correct answer. They should circle the answers they can remember, and leave the answers they don't.</li> <li>• Play the story again. Learners complete and check their answers as they listen.</li> <li>• Give the learners, in pairs or small groups, the transcript of the story cut up into paragraphs. Learners read and order the paragraphs. Then they can stick the paragraphs onto paper and draw a picture to illustrate each one.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Reviewing the story (10 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask learners what their favourite present in the story was. Play the story again, pausing at logical points. Ask questions about what has just happened, and what happens next. You could give points for correct answers.</li> <li>• Give learners part 3 of the activity sheet. They draw and label a present for Hairy Henry. Encourage them to say why they chose that present.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Oral extension: re-telling and re-enacting the story (10–20 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As a class, encourage learners to retell what they remember of the story, to a degree of detail or simplicity as appropriate to level.</li> <li>• Get stronger, more out-going learners to volunteer for key roles, and re-enact the story, with help and suggestions from the teacher and other learners as to what to say, where to stand, etc.</li> <li>• Put learners in groups to re-enact the story based on the model re-enactment created by the whole class. Some groups may like to volunteer to re-enact the story as a play for the class. Depending on your learners, you might like to film them.</li> </ul>
<b>6. Written and oral extension: creating a role play (10–20 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role-play a shopping trip. Set up a role play situation. For example: It's your teacher's birthday and you need to buy them a present.</li> <li>• Decide on the language you want the role plays to focus on. For example, they could focus on language for suggestions (Let's buy him/her some chocolates, etc), and/or functional shopping language (Can I have, here you are, etc).</li> <li>• Demonstrate a role play for the class with stronger learners. Depending on how much support they need, provide a written example on board, and/or get them to help you write the role play on the board before acting out.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put learners in groups of three (two friends and one shopkeeper for all the different shops). Get them to plan their role play in their notebooks. Depending on the learners, you might like to leave the example or some key phrases and language on the board to help them.</li> <li>• Some groups may want to volunteer to re-enact their role play for the class. Depending on your learners, you might like to film them.</li> </ul>
<b>7. Written extension: ideal birthday party (10–20 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask learners to tell you if they've ever had a birthday party. Where was it? Who came? What presents did they get? Was there a theme? What activities did they do? You might like to use the 'Birthdays' flashcards or play the 'Birthdays' word game to practise birthday party vocabulary first.</li> <li>• Then brainstorm ideas as a class as to what would be a perfect birthday party. Where is it? Who's coming? What presents do they get? Is there a theme? What activities do they do?</li> <li>• Learners complete part 4 of the activity sheet: write about their perfect birthday party and draw a picture. Learners should describe where it is, who's there, what presents they get, what theme it is, what games and activities they do, etc. They can use present simple or 'would' as appropriate to level. Then they draw a picture. Monitor to praise and help with language where needed.</li> <li>• Display work around the class. Allow time for learners to look at other learners' work.</li> <li>• As a follow-up, you might like to do the 'Birthday party invitation' writing practice activities with your learners. At the end they write an invitation to the birthday party they just planned.</li> </ul>
<b>8. Song (5 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there is time and interest, you might like to listen to or sing the 'Shopping' song with your learners.</li> </ul>
<b>9. Setting homework (5 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learners can watch the story or sing the song again, or complete the 'Birthdays' or 'Presents' worksheets. If they are members of LearnEnglish Kids, they can also read the comments on the 'Birthdays' or 'Presents' Your turns and then leave their own.</li> <li>• Alternatively, learners could make the 'Birthday card' craft for someone they know, or the 'Birthday calendar' to record their family's and friends' birthdays.</li> </ul>

**Contributed by**

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