



Moving Home

Topic: Communication/Relationships/Family

Curriculum link: Study of Society

Text type: Recount/Diary

Reading level: 21

Word count: 1183

Vocabulary: different, email, exploring, fair, favourite, friends, important, karate, moving, telephone, training

Possible literacy focus:

- Identifying the features of a diary entry.
- Understanding the sequence of events.
- Identifying words that are used to indicate that the text is written in the first person.
- Identifying contractions in the text.

Follow-up activities

Discuss and reflect

After reading the book, ask the children:

How do you think Declan feels about moving house?

What does he think he will miss the most?

What helps him to settle into his new school?

How is his new home different to his old home?

Do you think you would like to move house?

What would you miss?

What would you enjoy about the change?

Feelings

Discuss with the children the range of feelings that Declan has about moving house. List these on the board. Ask the children to re-read the book and find the sections of text where he describes how he is feeling. Ask the children to work in pairs and read sections of the text to one another, while imagining how Declan is feeling.

Diary format

Moving Home is written as a diary. Discuss how a diary is written – in the first person, with dated entries.

Who has written this diary? How do you know?

Point out that the entries do not occur every day.

Why didn't Declan write in his diary every day?

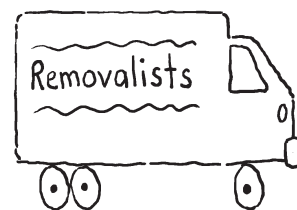
Ask the children to turn to page 24.

What is different about this page? It is a copy of an email.

If possible, allow time for the children to email a friend in the class.

Diary writing

You will need:
paper, pencil

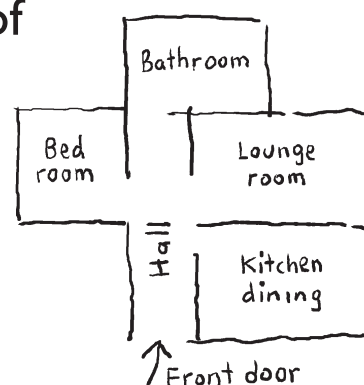


1. Imagine that you are moving house.
2. Write a diary about your move.
3. You could write about:
 - what you would like to take with you and what you won't need anymore
 - the activities that you would like to find near your new home
 - some of the things that you think you will miss.
4. Share your diary with a friend.

New home

You will need:
paper, pencil, coloured pencils, felt pens

1. Imagine what your new home will look like.
2. Draw a picture of the front of your house.
3. What is it like inside? Draw a plan of your house.
4. Label each of the rooms.
5. Write about the special features of your house.
6. Display your plan in the classroom.



Contractions

Contractions are the shortened version of a longer word or words. For example, 'isn't' is the contraction of 'is not'. Draw a line to match each contraction with the longer version.

Contraction	Longer version
didn't	it is
I'd	I have
it's	can not
I've	did not
can't	I would

Look for other contractions and write them down. Next to each one, write the longer version.

Contractions	Longer version

Character cube

On each face of the cube, draw and label or write something about Declan.

