

### Class level

Third class upwards

### Learning objectives

The child will be enabled to:

- recognise how books are adapted for film
- explore how the passage of time, words and stories are dealt with in both books and films

### Methodologies

Individual work and group work

### Resources

- Book of choice
- Film activity sheet: *Adaptation*

### Time

Two 40-minute class sessions

### Curriculum links

**English:** Oral language: *Comparing books and films*

**SPHE:** Myself and the wider world – Media education: *Discussion on books and films*

### Suggested films

*Babe, The Railway Children, James and the Giant Peach, Black Beauty, Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, The Secret Garden*

### Film portfolio

Film activity sheet: *Adaptation*



## Introduction

### Discuss:

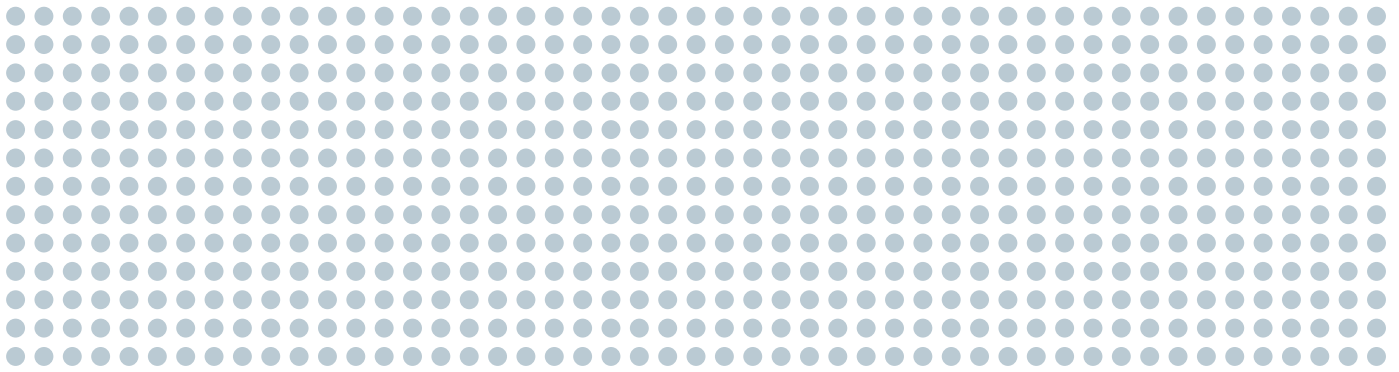
- Have you ever read a book that was adapted for film?
- Did you prefer reading the book or watching the film?
- What are the differences between reading a book and watching a film?



## Adaptation

A film that is based on a book.





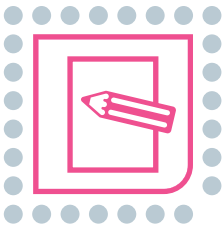
## Development

### Adaptation

When you read a book, you have to imagine what the characters look like, where they are, and what they are feeling. When you're watching a film, the different elements within the film give you this information.

A story may cover a period of time in the life of a character. This "passage of time" can be shown in the following ways:

- **Flashback:** when a character thinks back to a time in the past.
- **Subtitles:** when words appear on the screen, for example, "Three months later."
- **Dialogue:** through dialogue, we learn that time has passed.
- **Make-up:** when characters are made to look older (or younger) with make-up.
- **Cross-dissolve or cross-fade:** when one picture dissolves into another.



## Further extension work

### English adaptation

Read a chapter from a book of your choice that was adapted for film. Now watch this sequence on film, using the film activity sheet on "Adaptation".

### English adaptation / ICT

This web site gives information on children's books that have been adapted for films.  
[www.grm.net/~ajvande/juv/juvbfilm.html](http://www.grm.net/~ajvande/juv/juvbfilm.html)

This web site gives information on fairy tales that have been adapted for films.  
[www.grm.net/~ajvande/juv/fjuvfbookfairy.html](http://www.grm.net/~ajvande/juv/fjuvfbookfairy.html)

### English: Oral language

Recap Lesson 2 on elements of film, and discuss how you think these are used effectively when a book is being adapted as a film.



## Film activity sheet

The children discuss the elements of the film they have watched.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Film activity sheet: Adaptation

Name of book: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of film (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Author's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Who directed the film? \_\_\_\_\_

Which do you prefer, the film or the book? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the plot the same in both? \_\_\_\_\_

Are the characters the same? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the setting the same? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any scenes left out in the film? \_\_\_\_\_

Which do you think was better? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

[www.fis.ie](http://www.fis.ie)

