

# Introduction

Grammar is important because it is part of our everyday communication. It helps us to be understood and to make our communication more effective, clear and powerful. It is a tool through which we can express ourselves. Teaching grammar effectively can give children the confidence to develop their skills much faster. It is believed to develop:

- attention and concentration
- language comprehension
- expressive skills
- reading and writing
- storytelling
- thinking skills

For those children for whom English is a second language, or for those who might be learning a new language, proper grammar is essential as all languages follow grammatical patterns. Grammar develops a skill for life, which flows into all areas of their lives. Future jobs may very well be dependent on the ability to communicate thoughts or ideas effectively, or present information logically and coherently.

Sadly, however, many of our grammar experiences are viewed as tedious. Many exercises are just pages of drills and the concept of grammar as being fun or exciting is eradicated. These books are designed to give children more confidence with their grammar. They have a range of exciting themes, filled with imaginative ideas, which will transport children through a grammatical journey that is fun and action-packed.

The comprehension activities at the beginning of each theme serve two purposes: they help to set the context for the activities that follow and they introduce key grammatical concepts. These activities demonstrate how grammar is used in context and provide excellent talking points for introducing and reinforcing the grammatical point being studied.

Within each theme there are opportunities for expanding children's writing. These activities are useful for assessing whether children can transfer the grammar points they have learned into their own writing. Mini quizzes at the end of each theme are design to 'test' how much they have remembered.

Within each class there will be a variety of abilities. Less able pupils may need to have the instructions read and discussed with them prior to doing the activity. The Challenges at the bottom of each page allow more able children to be stretched and provide activities for faster finishers.

The books are linked to the requirements of the National Curriculum of England, where a knowledge of the correct terminology is also implicit.

Help your pupils get a firm grip on grammar and punctuation with this photocopiable six-book series, *Getting to Grips with English Grammar* for Years 1–6!