

BANJO
ROBINSON

IN

SCHOOLS!

MINI PACK.



Banjo in Schools is a free resource. If you haven't already signed up, please sign-up here for extra content and offers delivered via email:
www.banjorobinson.com/schools-resources/



BANJO IN SCHOOLS! AT A GLANCE!



1. Personalise and read out Banjo's UK letter



3. Children write back to Banjo and post their letter under your desk



2. Enjoy the UK activity sheets and table materials

4. You write a note back in Banjo's voice on his headed paper



5. Then just personalise and read out Banjo's next letter... and continue the cycle!

Keep reading for:

1. How it works
2. A letter to your colleagues
3. Using Banjo in your classroom: an overview



Banjo in Schools: How it Works (MINI PACK)

Banjo Robinson is a magical cat who travels around the globe sending personalised letters and activity packs to children from each of his destinations.

Banjo's letters encourage a reply, resulting in a truly magical correspondence between child and cat!

In collaboration with children's author Sylvia Bishop and primary school teachers, the team at Banjo HQ has now created a **free school product** so that classrooms up and down the country can enjoy exploring the world with Banjo.

Banjo's school pack

- supports the KS1 Geography curriculum
- develops pleasure in reading
- encourages positive attitudes towards writing

Suggested structure

1. Taster pack is printed from banjorobinson.com/banjo-in-schools.
2. *Classroom World Map* is displayed on the wall.
3. Banjo's first letter, from the UK, is personalised by the teacher.
4. Banjo's UK letter is read out to the class who are provided with supporting materials to enhance their experience. Teacher has access to activities.
5. Children are encouraged to write back to Banjo using the stationery provided and leave their letters in a designated classroom spot for secret collection by the United Paws Postal Service.
6. Pawprints around the edge of the *Classroom World Map* are coloured in by children when they have written their replies.
7. The next day, the children's replies have disappeared, and children believe they are on their way to Banjo.
8. Teacher can write a note from Banjo on *Headed Paper* to thank the class for their letters.
9. After a break of 1-2 weeks, the teacher personalises Banjo's letter from Uganda. **The personalised PS message can refer to class and school news, or things the children have asked in their letters to Banjo.**
10. The cycle continues with the final letter from Fiji. Once all three letters have been read, discussed and replied to, children can receive a **completion certificate** (see banjorobinson.com/banjo-in-schools).

Please note that our full scheme of work also includes:

- detailed lesson plans
- further activities
- table support materials including geography vocab sheets

Why use Banjo in your classroom?

Banjo's letters are aligned to the Geography KS1 curriculum, providing the perfect introduction to the seven continents, climate across the world, the countries within the UK, and key geographical vocabulary.

Banjo is the perfect way to promote reading and writing for pleasure. The National Curriculum states that children “should be taught to develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding.” With its focus on encouraging curiosity and imagination, the letters motivate children to consolidate and expand their vocabulary.

Accompanying activities can be completed individually, in groups or be sent home.

Banjo's letters are written by acclaimed children's author, Sylvia Bishop (Erica's Elephant; The Bookshop Girl), ensuring high quality, rich and motivating texts.

Banjo promotes learning at home. Banjo Robinson's at-home product encourages parents to read and write letters with their children, talking about new places and words and sharing the joy of reading. This is proven to be vital in closing the disadvantage gap and enabling educational success (“The Reading Framework” DfE, July 2021). Further, the letters encourage children to compare their own experiences with Banjo's perspectives of different countries. This provides children opportunities to discuss diversity and to share family traditions with their class.

Tell your colleagues about Banjo

We've written a handy introduction about Banjo in Schools for you to pass on to your colleagues and others in the teaching community – turn to the next page for a printable/customisable version!

For additional support and questions, visit Dory at Banjo HQ: <https://banjorobinsonhelp.zendesk.com/hc/en-gb> or email heythere@banjorobinson.com





Dear Colleague,

Banjo Robinson has just launched a new, completely free resource for primary schools which can be adapted to each school's context and curriculum intent.

Using personalised letters from a magical, globetrotting cat as a starting point, the team has worked with teachers to create a wealth of **KS1 geography curriculum-aligned materials** which can be used as a hook within an existing scheme or as a standalone unit of work.

Banjo Robinson supports reading and writing for pleasure, and works with acclaimed children's authors to create high quality texts with rich vocabulary.

Banjo in Schools can be used across Years 1 and 2 with lesson plans and activities that can extend higher attainers and provide motivation for reluctant writers to write for a purpose. A mini version of this resource which can be used in Reception classrooms is also available.

If you would like further information and to explore the offering, please visit www.banjorobinson.com/banjo-in-schools.

I hope you like it!

