The following activities are geared to Year 2 children, combining many of the skills and abilities linked to the National Curriculum and their educational development, i.e. the discussing of story settings; the comparison of differences; the location of key words and phrases in text; the identification and description of characters and character profiles; the use of story settings as a basis for your own creative writing; the use of ways of presenting i.e. speech bubbles, bold or italicised, headings etc; the use of commas and much more!

Activities: Neverland as a Holiday Destination

• Ask your children to build a picture in their minds of Neverland – a wonderful and fantastical place, with forests and a river, amazing beasts and a lagoon where mermaids play! Some may have seen film versions and others may need encouraging to listen to descriptions of the setting and to use their imaginations. In groups, get them to design posters advertising Neverland as a holiday destination. You may like to bring in examples of holiday brochures or look at examples of travel posters to help them choose their style and headings.

• As a speaking and listening activity, ask children (in 2 groups: presenters and listeners) to produce a travel piece for this holiday, ‘selling’ Neverland as a holiday destination to the second group – in the style of a holiday presenter! Encourage this through demonstration, and encourage them to use their imaginations. Make sure that they fully describe this magical place as their listeners cannot see it and they need to know what it is like! Swap groups and do it the other way around.

• Get your children to think about all the different characters in Peter Pan, and ask each child to create a ‘profile’ of one chosen character, as if producing a passport for this character. What do they look like? How do they dress? Do they have a smell? Any strange habits or traits?

• Your children are about to travel to Neverland. Ask them to individually write a ‘kit list’ of things that they will need to pack, for example, real food, a dagger to fight off the pirates, a fairy lingo dictionary so they can understand Tinker Bell – and so on! Imagination is key to this activity, so encourage them to be as imaginative as possible. As they prepare their lists, ask them to use commas, headings, emboldened words etc.

• Once in Neverland, they will want to send postcards home to their families. Once they have decided what it is like there, ask them to write a postcard based on their thoughts and experiences, imagining themselves in this mystical setting, and using the correct punctuation (capital letters, commas, full stops etc.) in their writing.