

paint the monster. Help them to experiment with colour mixing until they find the right combination to make purple. Let them use large brushes to paint the monster and, when dry, add yellow horns and nails, and draw in the other features using thick black felt-tipped pens.

- Use the monster as the starting point for making up stories together. For example, you could take the monster into the book corner and create a story about it coming into the setting before the children arrived that morning and eating the books until its tummy was so full it could not eat any more. The children can 'post' the books into the monster's mouth as they use 'monster' voices to tell the story.

Support and extension

- Give younger children time to use the illustrations to aid their understanding as they listen to the story.
- Challenge older children to look for details in the illustrations that are not mentioned in the text, such as Mother spilling the paint or the bandage on Father's finger after he used the hammer.

Further activities

- Take the monster model outside and use whatever props are available to stimulate the children into making up more monster adventures. For example, the monster could

eat all of the washing from the line, ride to the seaside on a scooter and eat all the fish in the sea or eat all the animals at the zoo. Check first that you have permission to photograph the children and then take photographs of the monster's adventures and use the pictures as further talking points.

- Use the photographs to remind the children of the monster's adventures and ask them to choose their favourite one to retell as you record their words on tape. Help them to retell the story and then play back the recording for them to listen to and compare the versions.

Play link

Provide coloured play dough, card, coloured pens, scissors and 'goggly' eyes. Encourage the children to experiment in making their own scary monsters from the dough and adding extra features drawn onto and shaped from card. **(CD)**

Home link

Display the photographs of the monster's adventures and the play dough models to encourage the children to tell their parents or carers about their monster stories.

Cross-curricular links

Exploring Media and Materials

- Create constructions, collages, painting and drawings. **(CD)**

Early Learning Goals

- Explore colour, texture, shape, form and space in two or three dimensions. **(CD)**

