

Looking for language treasures!

Using words to show you I'm thinking of you...

You are going to look for a language treasure. A language treasure is made of beautiful, sweet, funny or kind words. A language treasure is a treasure in one's **mother tongue**.

Mother tongue: *The language you speak with your parents at home. Like English, Dutch, Gaelic, German, Arabic, etc. and also dialects like Cockney, Scouse, Geordie, Brummie, Schwyzerdütsch or Ostfriesisch.*

You might call this your home language. Some children even have two home languages!

A language treasure can comfort people or make them laugh. If we can find a lot of language treasures we can make many people happy. Isn't that a good idea? So, come let's take a look!

Where can you look for this language treasure?

That's up to you!

Maybe it's with you grandmother, grandfather, father, mother, neighbor, uncle or aunt.

How will you find it?

You can call, Skype or Facetime with your relatives. Or when the language treasure is in your home, just have a conversation with your parents.

Exercise 1: Looking for language treasures.

You're going to ask someone about their language treasure. Something the other person really likes. Like a beautiful sentence, a nice poetry line or a saying. Let them choose a sentence that makes them happy, what they think is funny or beautiful or something that gives people hope.

- A:** Start with thinking about whom you will ask for their language treasure. Maybe your mother, father, grandmother or grandfather: it's all allowed.
- B:** Imagine how you can connect with this person. You can call or video chat, or just ask your parents if that's where you want to find your treasure.
- C:** Think about the question you want to ask. Use help sheet 1.



Help sheet 1: Looking for a language treasure

Which questions will you ask?

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You can also use the following questions:

- What song, in your mother tongue, from your childhood do you think is funny/special/beautiful?
- What did you find a beautiful/funny/special poem in your mother tongue?
- What do you think is a beautiful/funny/special saying or sentence in your mother tongue?
- What's so beautiful/funny/special about it?
- Do you find the sound of it funny/special/beautiful?
- Did it make you happy?
- Or sad?
- What's it about?
- What language is it?
- When was it written/sung?

Choose the most beautiful sentence together. Write down the sentence here:

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What language does this sentence come from?

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What's the translation in English/Dutch/Frisian?

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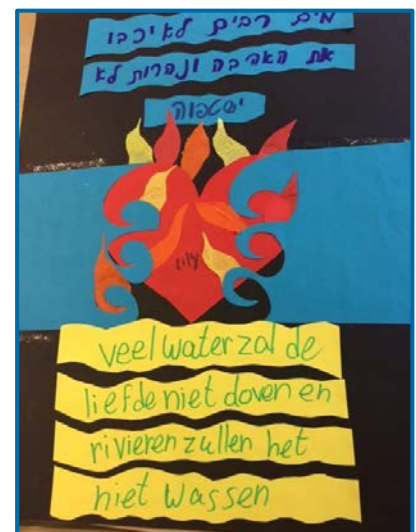
Exercise 2: Share your language treasure!

You found a language treasure, great!

Now we would like to share it with others, so they can enjoy this language treasure too. We will be doing this by making a poster.

- A:** Imagine what kind of drawing or picture fits your language treasure best. What does it look like? Draw two sketches as design. You can use help sheet 2.
- B:** Did you finish your sketches? Wonderful! Choose the sketch you like best and use it to continue. Answer the questions on the help sheet.
- C:** You thought about it thoroughly. You can start making your poster!

Here are some examples if you need some inspiration.



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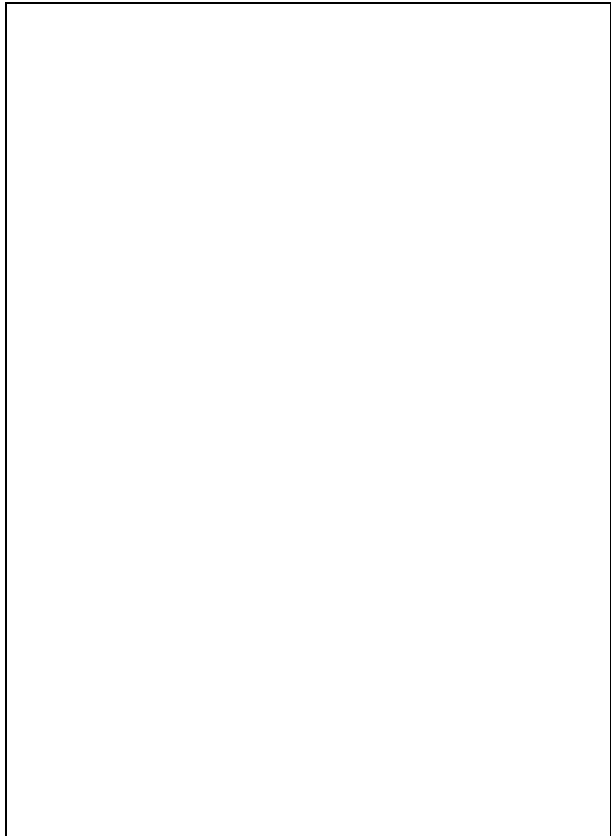
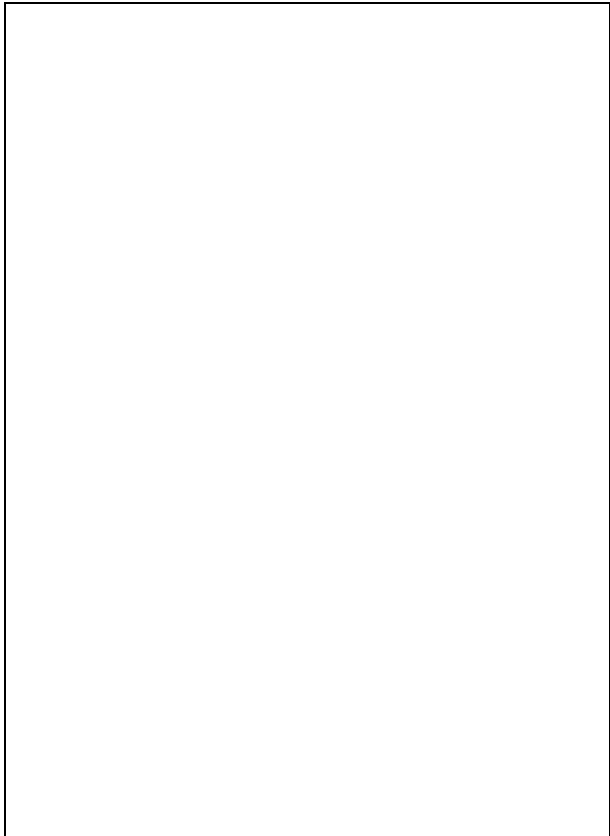
Help sheet 2: Share your language treasure



Draw two sketches as a possible design for your poster.

Imagine where you want to place your text/sentence.

It's important to write down your sentence clearly, so others can see and read it.



How to design your poster?

You can draw, paint, glue

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What kind of material do you need?

Think about a giant piece of paper, paint, paintbrushes, fabrics, glue, pictures, magazines, pencils, markers, scissors

It's fun to work with a lot of different materials!

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How to put your language treasure on the poster?

With letter stamps, by cutting letters from magazines/papers and glue them on, paint it on, write it down with markers.... If you want to write it down, use thick markers so the text is easy to read from a distance.

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