Activities for ‘Charlotte’s Web’ by E.B. White

Learning Intentions:
- Chdn will be able to emphasise with others and write from anothers view
- Chdn will understand what an adjective is and be able to use a variety in their writing
- Chdn will understand the layout of a dictionary and be able to use one
- Chdn will be able to write for a variety of purposes and in a variety of forms: letter, timetable, newspaper report, poster, menu
- Chdn will be able to select the appropriate mathematical operation to solve ‘real’ problems
- Chdn will be able to make comments, justify their observations and refer to the text and illustrations

General Activities – Make a dictionary for the new words Wilbur learns and their meanings.

Chapter 1-
- Character study/ word bank on Fern

Chapter 2-
- Description of Wilburs life – trips in pram etc.
- Character study/ word bank on Wilbur

Chapter 3-
- Comparison with life at Zuckermans farm
- Farmyard picture with speech bubbles for what the animals were shouting
- Newspaper report about the escape

Chapter 4-
- Menu for Wilbur
- Timetable of Wilbur’s day
- Discussion of who the voice belongs to/ the new friend

Chapter 5-
- Make a list of the noises in the barn at night
- Recreate the night time barn noises with percussion instruments
- Make a list of salutations
• Storyboard for events of Chapter 5
• Write the instructions for a spider killing a fly
• Write a menu for Charlotte
• Character study/ word bank of Charlotte

Chapter 6-
• Write an announcement for the goslings being born
• Character study/ word bank of Templeton

Chapter 7-
• How would Wilbur feel when he found out the bad news? Write as though you are Wilbur just finding out
• Design a poster for Wilbur to put up – Save me! Give reasons why Wilbur should be saved
• Write the conversation between the sheep and Wilbur. Remember, the sheep speaks cruelly and factually, whereas Wilbur is emotional and hysterical

Chapter 8-

Chapter 9-
• Draw and label a spider
• Story board for the events of Chapter 9

Chapter 10-
• Storyboard for the events of Chapter 10
• Write a story with the title ‘How the egg broke’. Be as descriptive and interesting as you can

Chapter 11-
• Write about Charlotte’s plan
• Talk about adjectives
• Make some webs with phrases on that describe Wilbur
• Write a newspaper article about the miracle

Chapter 12-
• Goose and gosling Maths problems: Goose says “Here, here, here” – How many Geese does Charlotte think are present? The 7 goslings say
“Bee, bee, bee” – How many goslings does Charlotte think there are? Design other farmyard problems.

- Make a list of words that could be used in the webs. Make some more webs using words/ phrases cut out from magazines or printed on the computer
- Write a speech for the sheep to persuade Templeton to collect magazine bits from the dump

Chapter 13-
- Write an article for the ‘Weekly Chronicle’
- Make a leaflet ‘Wilbur Aerobics’ with pictures of Wilburs different acrobatic moves and how to do them. Make up some of your own
- Write an action-packed story to tell Wilbur
- Write a lullaby to make Wilbur sleep. Include the things he likes to make him feel good, and sleepy

Chapter 14-
- Character study/ word bank on Avery

Chapter 15-
- Discuss the changes in a tree over the seasons and how this could be described with the qualities of a person
- Design a good and a bad dream for Wilbur

Chapter 16-
- Design a poster advertising the fair. Don’t forget to include ‘Zuckerman’s Famous Pig’.
- Menu for Templeton using food at the fair

Chapter 17-
- Fairground sound poem
- Price problems about a fairground. 3 candyflosses at 30p each. How much? etc

Chapter 18-
- Write the story Templeton will tell about the fair, to the other animals.

Chapter 19-
Chapter 20-
• Design the medal Wilbur won
• Write a front page newspaper article describing Wilbur’s award

Chapter 21-
• Write a thank you letter from Wilbur to Charlotte

Chapter 22-
• Discuss what makes a good friend. Use what Charlotte was like to help.
• Write about a special friend
• Devise some questions that Charlotte’s children may ask Wilbur about their mother. Give the answers

At the end of the book-
• Write about your favourite part and illustrate it
• Write a book review
• Venn diagram to compare animation and book. Which did you prefer? Why?
• Redesign the book cover, including blurb on back
• Make paper mache piggy banks using balloons, and a rolled strip of card/egg box section for the snout.