



(Almond's *Mouse, Bird, Snake Walker*, 2013) provides opportunities to explore the idea of possibilities within the context of an illustrated short novel. When Sue and Harry's world is so small and nonchalant, they forget the things left in the world. They put themselves to create a world to fill the gaps, becoming more creative at each step. 'Conscience Alley' is a unique technique for exploring any kind of text, created by a character, providing a way to analyse a decisive moment in a story. Here, it can allow pupils to retell the story and consider the consequences of the children's choices at the choices they make. The class forms two lines of characters. One person takes the role of the protagonist and walks between the lines. Another member of the group speaks for the protagonist makes a choice. Debate and argument arising from the choice can also lead to writing for or against the choices the

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## CHOOSING AND USING BOOKS:

### 4 things to consider

- 1 Start with a text that enthralls you rather than shoe-horning books in to fit a set topic.
- 2 Recognise that texts need not always be books. Explore a variety of formats and approaches, including multimedia. This is the case across the full range of literature but has particular pertinence when it comes to information texts.
- 3 Provide books that allow children to see themselves reflected in what they read and to have the opportunity to investigate other lives, worlds and perspectives in their reading.
- 4 Ensure there are texts that children can engage with in a variety of ways depending on their views, responses, maturity, tastes and choices.

