



Take 5: Ideas for Independent/Home Learning

Arthur and the Golden Rope by Joe Todd-Stanton (Flying Eye Books)

1. Explore It



Look at this illustration. *Where do you think this place is? Who do you think the man is? Why is he there? What objects can you notice? Where do you think they came from?*

Choose one object that really interests you. *What do you think the story might be behind that object? Where might it have been found? What was it for? How did it end up in this vault?*

2. Illustrate It

Look back at the range of objects included in the vault. *What other objects – of great power and rarity – could appear in the Brownstone family vault? Draw an artefact that you think deserves a place in the vault. It might be an object from history, from myths or legends, or it could be an item that you have invented yourself. Think about the story behind your artefact. What is it called? Where did it come from? How did it come to the vault? You could use your ideas to write a label or sign that could be placed next to your object in the vault.*

3. Talk about it

In the picture we can see Professor Brownstone:

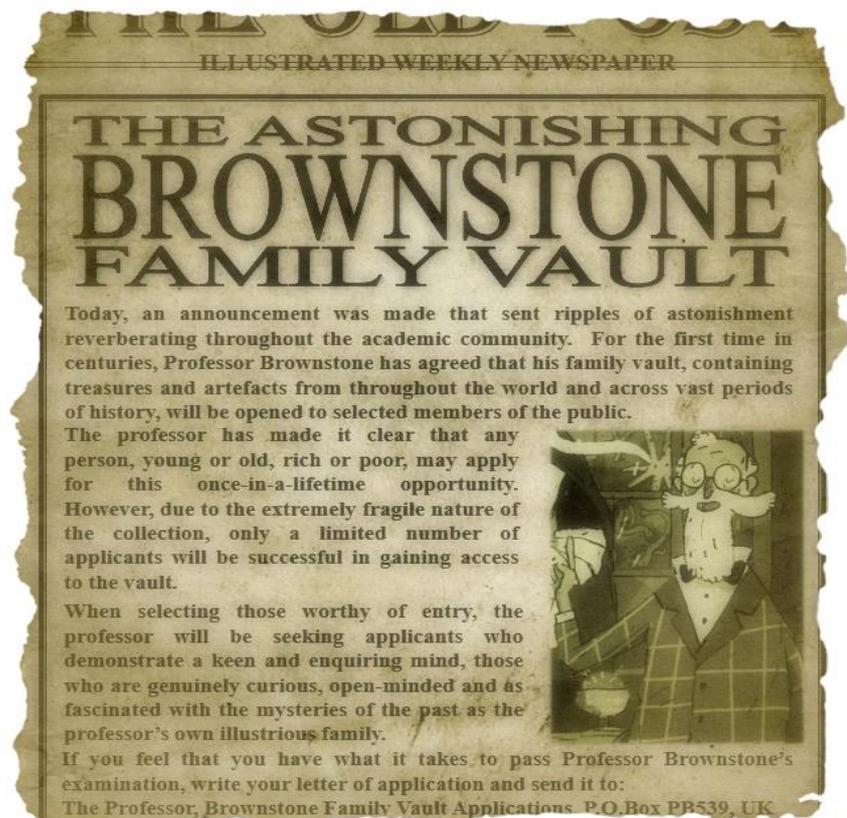
- *What are your first impressions of the professor?*
- *What can we find out from his body language, his facial expression and his appearance?*
- *What words would you use to describe his personality?*
- *What do you think his job is?*
- *Why do you think he is introducing you to the collection?*

4. Imagine It

Imagine you are responding to this advert. *What do you think the professor would be looking for in a person to invite into the vault?*

For example, they would need to be careful, as all the objects are precious and fragile. They would also need to be ‘as fascinated with the mysteries of the past’ as the Brownstone family – how might you demonstrate that?

Make a list of the qualities that you have that would make you a good person for the professor to choose.



5. Create It

Using all of your notes and ideas so far – what we know about the vault, what we know about the professor, and all of the reasons why we might be chosen to visit the vault – write a letter to the professor persuading him that you deserve this opportunity. *What tone of voice might you use? Will you try to flatter him? Will you be polite? Will you praise and admire what you've seen of his collection through the picture? How will you demonstrate that you are genuinely interested and curious? After you have written your letter, you might fold it up and ask an adult to read it as if they were the professor. Would they let you in if they were him? What did they see that you included that might convince him?*