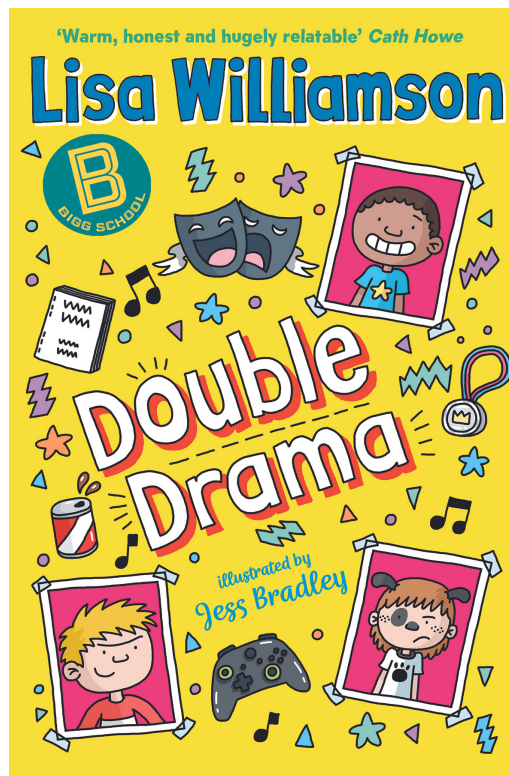


Teaching Resource

Key Stage 2



## Big School: Double Drama by Lisa Williamson

- Discussion questions
- Writing activities
- Cross curricular opportunities

### Themes explored:

Identity      Courage      Family      Self-Doubt vs Self-Confidence  
Friendship      Responsibility      Hopes and dreams      Health

[www.guppybooks.co.uk/guppy-school](http://www.guppybooks.co.uk/guppy-school)

	Discussion questions	Writing activities	Cross curricular opportunities
<p><b>Chapters 1-3</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why had Daniel not been able to game at Ollie’s house?</li> <li>• What was life like for Daniel straight after the twins were born?</li> <li>• Why does Daniel believe Ollie to be <i>the coolest</i>?</li> <li>• Why do you think Ollie was so cross that Daniel had looked inside his stepbrother’s bedroom?</li> <li>• Why do you think Dad <i>roared with laughter</i> when Daniel told him that Ollie gets paid to do chores?</li> <li>• Why is Lola’s Mum making her brother take Vitamin D supplements?</li> <li>• What is your first impression of Ms Whitfield?</li> <li>• What appeals to Daniel about being an actor?</li> <li>• From what you have discovered about Daniel so far, do you think he would be a good actor? Give reasons for your answer.</li> </ul>	<p>Read Daniel’s daydream on pages 23 and 24. <i>As he droned on, I zoned out and had a little daydream. I have a few different daydreams on the go at the moment...</i></p> <p>Allow your mind to wander and daydream. Then write about your daydream. Include detailed descriptions and write in present tense, as though the daydream is currently really happening.</p>	<p><b>Drama:</b> Find out how to play the games that Ms Whitfield lets the class play in drama lessons: <i>Zip, Zap, Boing and Zombie Tag and Splat</i>. As a group discuss which game each of you like best.</p>

	Discussion questions	Writing activities	Cross curricular opportunities
<p><b>Chapters 4-7</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does Daniel like about secondary school?</li> <li>• What does he miss about primary school?</li> <li>• What do you think the twins enjoyed about <i>The Wizard of Oz</i>?</li> <li>• Why do some of Daniel's friends think that the school play is for girls?</li> <li>• Why does Ms Whitfield tell Daniel the story about her missing the trip to the National Space Centre as a child?</li> <li>• How can Daniel tell that Mum is having a good day when he arrives home after the audition?</li> <li>• What nickname did Mum use for Dad in the past?</li> <li>• Why do you think Daniel is not as sad as he thought he would be about his Xbox still being broken?</li> </ul>	<p>Research <b>The Wizard of Oz</b> and make some notes about the plot and characters. If possible, watch the 1939 film or read the book by L. Frank Baum.</p>	<p><b>PSHE:</b> Daniel's mum has Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS). This is a long-condition with a wide range of symptoms. The most common symptom is extreme tiredness. CFS is sometimes known as an 'invisible' illness as it is not always obvious that somebody is suffering with the condition. Research CFS and other 'invisible' illnesses such as fibromyalgia, lupus, and rheumatoid arthritis.</p> <p>Discuss what it might be like to live with CFS and to care for somebody who has the condition.</p>

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<p><b>Chapters 8-11</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why does Daniel head straight to the performing arts corridor on Wednesday morning?</li> <li>• Did you believe Lola when she tells Daniel that he has got the part of Dorothy?</li> <li>• When Mr Capron asks Daniel what he ate for breakfast, Daniel tells him that he had <i>escargot</i>. What does this mean and why does Daniel say this?</li> <li>• Why do you think Ms Whitfield gave Daniel the part of The Cowardly Lion?</li> <li>• Explain how you think Daniel felt when Ollie described him as a stray dog begging for scraps?</li> <li>• Why do you think Daniel is most looking forward to <i>pretending to be someone else for a bit</i>?</li> <li>• Why does Daniel feel a bit intimidated by Zariah, Mihir and Willow?</li> <li>• What is the purpose of the obstacle course set up by Ms Whitfield?</li> </ul>	<p>Choose a chapter or extract from a favourite book of yours and re-write it as a play script. Ensure you pick an extract that has plenty of dialogue. Include stage directions to help the actors know how to deliver their lines.</p> <p>Consider which of your classmates you would ideally wish to give each of the parts in the play to.</p>	<p><b>Physical Education/ PSHE:</b></p> <p>Work in a small group to design an obstacle course for another group to complete. (Ensure that the equipment you use is safe and has been checked by an adult).</p>

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<p><b>Chapters 12-15</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why does Astrid accost Daniel in the dinner queue and how does Daniel handle the situation?</li> <li>• How do you feel about Dad’s response to the parents’ evening?</li> <li>• What did Daniel enjoy about the last day of term?</li> <li>• How does Daniel feel about Ollie paying for him at Winter Wonderland?</li> <li>• Why does Daniel tell his friends that Willow is his cousin?</li> <li>• What emotions does Daniel feel when the Ferris wheel breaks down?</li> <li>• Why do you think the twins did not tell Dad that Daniel had been late to collect them?</li> <li>• Suggest ways that Daniel could manage his anger without taking it out on the twins.</li> <li>• Choose three words to sum up Daniel’s Christmas Day.</li> </ul>	<p>Look closely at the description of Winter Wonderland on pages 110-115. Create a poster advertising Winter Wonderland. Use persuasive language to encourage students of your age to visit the destination with friends or family.</p>	<p><b>Design and Technology:</b> Create a design for a costume for Daniel to wear in <i>The Wizard of Oz</i>. Consider how to create a lion’s mane and tail. Draw a detailed sketch of your design and label it to show the materials needed to bring the design to life.</p>



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<p><b>Chapters 16-18</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lola is honest with Daniel about what her Christmas holiday was like. Why do you think Daniel is not completely honest with her about his?</li> <li>• What does the story about Dad creating Daniel’s starry ceiling tell you about what the relationship between Dad and Daniel used to be like?</li> <li>• What do you think Daniel enjoys the most about Holly’s party?</li> <li>• What is your opinion of the way Ollie treats Daniel? Is Lola right that he is <i>a bit of a bully</i> ? Or is it <i>just banter</i>?</li> <li>• Why do you think Lloyd stays very quiet when Daniel is talking about his martial arts training?</li> <li>• Chapter 18 is the point of the story in which the tension that has been brewing between Daniel and Dad, and Daniel and Ollie, comes to a climax. Which of the two confrontations do you think upset Daniel the most? Why?</li> </ul>	<p>Write a diary entry in role as Daniel in which he describes his feelings and emotions after the confrontations with Ollie and Dad.</p>	<p><b>Drama:</b> Play a version of the karaoke party game. Everyone should write down the name of a character from a book or film or a famous person. Put the names in a hat. In a second hat put the names of various songs. In a third hat put names of books that are available in your school library or classroom. Each player should pick either a song or a book. Then they should select a character. They then sing the song or read an extract from the book in the style of that character.</p>

	Discussion questions	Writing activities	Cross curricular opportunities
<p><b>Chapters 19-23</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you think Ms Whitfield is right to say <i>'when someone is cruel to another person, it's almost always because they've got issues of their own'</i>? What might Ollie be struggling with?</li> <li>• What does Daniel discover about Dad in the car on the way to Kick'n Chick'n?</li> <li>• What does Dad mean when he says, <i>'I got back on the straight and narrow'</i>?</li> <li>• In the car Dad says, <i>'You're a good lad, Danny.'</i> Why are these words so significant?</li> <li>• Why does Daniel picture a fat smiling lady on a stage as he walks into Kick'n Chick'n?</li> <li>• What gave Daniel the courage to step on to the stage?</li> <li>• Do you think Daniel will ever be friends with Ollie again?</li> <li>• How has Daniel's friendship with Lola changed?</li> </ul>	<p>Write about the evening of the play from Lloyd's perspective. How does he feel watching his sister and Daniel on the stage? Consider why he has kept Daniel's secret for so long and how he feels when they arrange to meet up with their sisters.</p>	<p><b>PSHE/English:</b> In <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> Dorothy goes on a long journey along a yellow brick road. She makes new friends along the way and she learns things about herself. Consider the journey that Daniel goes on throughout the story. Use the resource sheet attached (<b>Along the Yellow Brick Road</b>) to plot the events of the story using pictures or words and phrases. Then annotate the road to show the different emotions that Daniel experiences throughout the story (e.g. <i>excitement, anger, embarrassment, resentment, pride, jealousy, frustration, joy.</i>)</p>

A yellow brick road winds from the top left towards the bottom right, curving through a large white space. The background is yellow with various cartoon elements: a blue circle with 'BIGG SCHU' at the top left, a grey character with a crescent moon on its face at the top center, a pink character at the top right, a rainbow at the middle right, and a blue character at the bottom left. The text 'The night of the play.' is in the top left white area, and 'Ms Whitfield asks Daniel to audition for the play.' is in the bottom right white area.

**The night of the play.**

**Along the Yellow Brick Road.**

**Ms Whitfield asks Daniel  
to audition for the play.**