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SAGA OF THE GIANTS BY ROYAL DE LUXE

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GIANT SPECTACULAR 2018

Introduction

At the turn of the millennium Liverpool could only dream of the cultural journey it was about to embark on... and what a journey it has been! 2018 is a landmark year for Liverpool, celebrating 10 years since its designation of European Capital of Culture. As Merseyside looks forward to a new age of events and cultural happenings, it's a GIANT year for Liverpool City Region.

In collaboration with Liverpool City Region, Liverpool and Wirral will host the largest street theatre event to take place in the UK this year which will once again see giant visitors journey around Merseyside.

Taking place from 4 – 7 October 2018, Liverpool and Wirral will welcome back the creative tour de force that is Royal de Luxe who will undoubtedly deliver a jaw-dropping visual feast.





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Education Brief

When you sleep, what do you dream of? What do you dream of being? Who would you follow in the footsteps of? What dreams do you have of the future? What dreams will you pass on to your children or grandchildren, the next generation? They are our Dream Catchers....

Inspired by and designed to complement the creative story by Royal de Luxe of Liverpool's Dream, Culture Liverpool propose working with schools and community groups to explore these questions and catch people's dreams in a series of participatory events and artworks. These will take the form of two commissioned pieces of participatory artwork, 'the Giant Picnic in the Park' and 'Giant Dreams', detailed in this pack.

To mark the occasion of the Giant Spectacular returning for the final time, Culture Liverpool & Wirral Council want to involve as many community groups & schools as possible. If you would like to be involved in our offers outlined in this pack, please contact:

Lucy Graham, Creative Education Coordinator – Lucy.Graham@Liverpool.gov.uk – 0151 233 0977

Schedule of Events

THURSDAY 4TH OCT – Evening opening of the Giants weekend – Liverpool

FRIDAY 5TH OCT – Giants in both Liverpool & Wirral (Princes Park & New Brighton)

SATURDAY 6TH OCT – Giants in Liverpool

SUNDAY 7TH OCT – Giant farewell in Liverpool

Routes and locations will be revealed the first week of September. Please check www.giantspectacular.com for updates.



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ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY - Giant Picnic in the Park

On Friday 5th October, the Giants will visit both Princes Park and New Brighton dips. We want to mark this special occasion with a schools & community picnic in the park in both locations. Each group signed up will receive one blanket to decorate however they like (the more creative the better!). We are then asking groups to arrive on the day with their picnics and blankets and join us for a Giant Picnic! If you're a community or school group and would like to join us for one of our Giant Picnics, please contact Lucy.Graham@Liverpool.gov.uk

Blankets will be available to collect from Culture Liverpool by Monday 3rd September and various schools/centres nearby. Please contact Lucy for further details of your nearest collection point.

If you are bringing a group to the picnic on the day, please consider the best way to get to the park – this is most likely by walking if you're nearby! Road closures will be announced with the routes early September, please check these for further info. Once these are revealed, we can confirm coach parking locations that will be available for the event. *Please confirm with us numbers of pupils you intend to bring to the picnic this week.*

We are working with our events team to create a separate area for schools (additional to the class bringing a blanket for the picnic area). This will allow schools to bring more than one class along to the event with a dedicated area. We will endeavour to confirm this ASAP, but please note if this does not happen, you can bring along as many classes as you like – but those not taking part with the blanket will have to stand within the crowds. Culture Liverpool will have robust event safety management in place for this event, and can provide a template risk assessment for schools intending to visit.

Creative ideas for your blankets....



For more ideas, see Pinterest board here: <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/lucygraham58/giant-picnic/>



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ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY – Giant Dreams

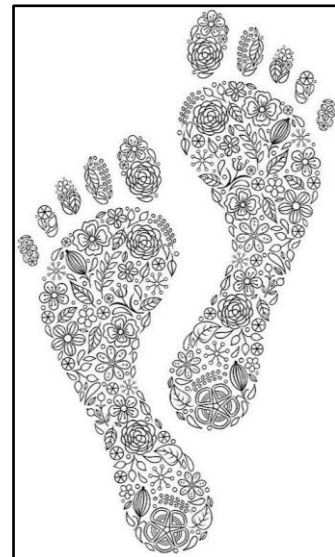
From Thursday 4th October, we will open the doors to our two Giant Dreams exhibitions. These will contain work from schools & community groups from across Liverpool and Wirral, representing their dreams, hopes, and ambitions. We are specifically asking groups to decorate t-shirts, football shirts, pyjamas (whatever you can supply-old or new!) to represent theirs, but we are open to the format of this. We will also be creating soundscapes to complement our visual exhibition to add voice to dreams and goals for the future. Our locations for both Liverpool & Wirral exhibitions are yet to be revealed, but keep in touch to find out more...

We are in the process of commissioning an artist who will pull together all of this work and help create a visually dynamic and exciting multimedia display. All artwork must be completed by Monday 24th September to allow us to collect all items in time for the install.

The exhibition will be open to the public 4th-31st Oct (TBC) and so members of the public will be able to access the work beyond the Giants weekend. Following this, we would like to return all art work to schools & groups as a lasting legacy to keep.

If you'd like to add to our exhibition, please contact Lucy.Graham@Liverpool.gov.uk

Creative ideas if you can't find an old t-shirt...



For more ideas, see Pinterest board here: <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/lucygraham58/giant-dreams/>



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CURRICULUM LINKS

You may want to use the following ideas to influence and shape lesson planning that could tie in to the Giants' visit:

GEOGRAPHY

Potential marathon tracker on Giants – track their movement, pace, etc.

Use tools like Map My Run to map out routes – distances, terrains

Local landmarks on routes – their historical significance

Create a tourism brochure for the Giants/ tourists coming to the area

Direction/ navigation of Giants (N, E, S, W)

HISTORY

Previous visits from the giants and the history explored – WW1 (Memories of 1914) and Titanic (One Magnificent City)

Local history of Princes Park / New Brighton

Local monuments and what they represent

Martin Luther King's I Have a Dream speech – history and how this could tie in to dreams for the future politically – Brexit, migration, borders, etc.

LITERACY

Who is your giant? Ambitions, goals, heroes and heroines, creative writing task

Glossary of terms for the giants – Giants, Puppeteers, Princes Park, Lilliputians, etc. – spelling tasks

Diary of the days – which giants went were and when – news report?

Dreams – what dreams do we have, what do we dream of? What could this mean?

MATHEMATICS

Calculate distances travelled by giants over the weekend – Speed, Distance, Time

Weight, height – Heavier than... Taller than...

Number of Lilliputians needed per giant, etc.



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SCIENCE

Speed – Distance – time

Mechanics of a puppet

Forces in movement – push/pull systems, etc. – using youtube videos of previous visits by searching Giant Spectacular

ART & DESIGN

Create your own puppet/ marionette / giant!

Exploring puppetry and different types

Other giants/puppets that have visited the UK/ world

Make a dream catcher, t-shirt or picnic blanket!

OTHER

Creating a menu for a Giant Picnic – what would the giants eat, how much, where are the giants from and their local foods vs. ours

Giant PE games

EARLY YEARS

ACTIVITIES/ MAKING

Make dream catchers for Giant Dreams display

Make clouds using cotton wool, card and paper to create a 'reach for the sky' display to help showcase dreams

Dream mood board – what did everyone dream of last night? Were there any similarities, differences? Why do we have good dreams and some bad dreams?

Who is our favourite character from a book we have read? Making items to represent their good qualities

Role play – what will we be like when we grow up? Who will we be like and why?

VISITS

Visit local places and people who are representative of idols/role models to discuss the history and why they are significant

Visit Princes Park & New Brighton to see the area



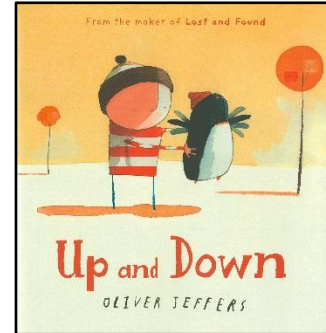
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RELATED READING

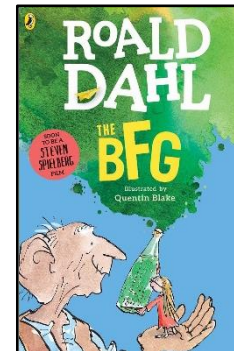
Age Group: Early Years

- Up and Down by Oliver Jeffers
- Dream Animals by Emily Winfield Martin
- What a Bad Dream by Mercer Mayer
- Me...Jane by Patrick McDonnell
- Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae



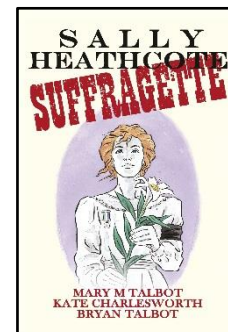
Age Group: Primary

- Play time by Julia Donaldson
- Sea of Dreams by Dennis Nolan
- The Dream Stealer by Stephen Cosgrove
- The BFG by Roald Dahl
- Dreams of Freedom by Amnesty International
- Little People, Big Dreams series



Age Group: Secondary

- Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls by Eleni Favilli & Francesca Cavallo
- Until We Win by Linda Newbery
- Sally Heathcote: Suffragette by Mary M Talbot
- Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte





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GIANT GUESTS

Royal De Luxe have several giants, which ones are coming to Liverpool & Wirral is still a secret, but here are the details of those we've seen before....



The Little Girl Giant

At her tallest she reaches nearly 30 foot and weighs 800kg. She is made of poplar and lime wood and steel and needs 22 Lilliputians to operate her. The Little Girl Giant can reach speeds of 2.5km an hour. Her hair and eyebrows are made from horsehair, her eyes from street lamps and her eyelashes from broom hair.

The Uncle/Diver

This deep sea hero is a massive 50 foot high and weight 2.5tonnes. Able to move at 1km an hour he needs 30 Lilliputians to move his body which is made of steel, lime and poplar wood. His hair is made of horsehair, eyelashes made of broom hair; and his eyes are streetlamp lights moved by small motors.





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Xolo

This playful canine is 9ft tall and weighs 200kg. The fastest of the three giants, he can travel at 4km an hour and needs 20 Lilliputians to operate him. He is made of steel and papier mâché.

The Grandmother

She's an 85 year old Grandmother with half-Breton and half-Irish origins. This has given her a tough, daring and mischievous character, but is full of tenderness nonetheless.

She travels through several lived realities: in the past, the present and the future all at once. She smokes pipes. She spits from time to time. She even breaks wind which lifts her skirt with the scent of vanilla. She has great knowledge of the Giants' world and enjoys describing it immensely.



Use these facts to look at numeracy links, or designing your own giants...



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VISITS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH – October 2018

Martime Museum, Liverpool – Black Salt Britain’s Black Sailors

New exhibition at Merseyside Maritime Museum reveals 500 years of Black British seafaring.

The exhibition combines personal stories, historic data, objects and memorabilia to chart a course through the often troubled waters of Britain’s maritime past to explore the work of Black seafarers. Historically overlooked, Black Salt shows how they contended with the dangers and hazards of life at sea, and challenged inequality on board and ashore.

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/listings/region/liverpool/black-salt-britains-black-sailors/>

MARTIN LUTHER KING BUILDING

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. building, which is next to the International Slavery Museum was opened to the public just for the day, for a series of events to commemorate and celebrate the 50th anniversary of Dr King’s now iconic speech. This has become known as the “I Have a Dream” speech – delivered on the steps of the iconic Lincoln memorial in Washington, D.C. on a scorching hot summer’s day in 1963 to a crowd of over 250,000. The building hosts exhibitions and new work telling the history of slavery and history.

See what’s on: <http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/ism/>

MANDELA 8



Liverpool City Council and the Mandela8 group have been gifted limited edition artwork by Nelson Mandela’s daughter.

Mandela8 was established in 2013 after Nelson Mandela’s passing to establish a permanent memorial and educational programme as a fitting legacy. The memorial will be installed in Princes Park and officially opened in 2019.

The City of Liverpool has strong connections to Nelson Mandela, being active in supporting anti-apartheid since the 1960’s and supporting the Free Nelson Mandela campaign and giving Nelson Mandela the Freedom of the city in 1994.



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Earlier this year representatives from Mandela8 and Liverpool City Council visited South Africa to share the designs for the memorial with the Mandela family and were delighted to return to Liverpool not only with the blessing of Nelson Mandela’s eldest daughter Dr Makaziwe ‘Maki’ Mandela for the designs, but the beautiful gift of the limited edition ‘Struggles Collection’ prints. The collection includes 5 line drawings depicting the various stages of South Africa’s development and the direct influence Nelson Mandela brought from struggle, imprisonment, freedom, unity and future.

It is without question that such a significant gift needs to be shared and be accessible to all who wish to see it so the prints will initially be on display in the Town Hall until Friday 24th August, alongside the Freedom of the City scroll that is already on display there. They will then move on to be permanently displayed in St Georges Hall from August onwards.

AURORA

For over 100 years it held 2 million gallons of water. Now it holds you...

Step inside the cave-like vaults of Toxteth Reservoir for a 40-minute ‘walk on water’. Through dark chambers and between towering iron arches, water surrounds, floods and falls around you, both beautiful and terrifying. The sights, sounds and wonder of an ice cave, a tropical rainforest and monsoons unfold before you. But as you find yourself on an island, are you safe or are you trapped? Because when we understand that water is more precious than oil or gold, we view everything differently.



Toxteth Reservoir, 21 September - 8 October 2018, Thursday - Sunday, 12-7pm,
www.fact.co.uk/aurora

Contact Cathryn on cathryn.peach-barnes@fact.co.uk to find out how you can volunteer, book or for further info.



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BLOG

Keep the city & beyond updated on your work, and keep updated on everyone else's via our blog: www.giantspectacular.com – Latest News

To submit a blog post, contact Lucy.Graham@Liverpool.gov.uk for info.

LIVERPOOL PROMISE

We want Liverpool to be the best city in the UK to grow up in – where children are healthy, happy, safe from harm, ready to learn, ready for school and ready for work.

Liverpool Promise brings together school staff, children and young people, cultural organisations, businesses and leaders across the city, all of whom want to make a positive difference to the lives of children and young people.

Find out what Liverpool Promise is all about and how you can join us and make promises of your own.

ARTS AWARD

With the theme of dreams, ambitions and goals, it is easy to see the link between this and Part C of Bronze Arts Award. If you are considering delivering Arts Award and using the Giant Spectacular visit for this, please contact Lucy for information or support. A worksheet for each section may be available.

ARTSMARK

By engaging in our creative programme, you will be able to evidence the following criteria as part of your Artsmark journey:

- Embedding a diverse curriculum
- Engaging children and young people
- Establishing a wide range of cultural offers
- Developing valuable partnerships
- Promoting arts and culture in your values and ethos.



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CONTACT US

For education/community engagement: Lucy Graham Lucy.Graham@Liverpool.gov.uk / 0151 233 0977

Please confirm if you would like to take part in any of our activities by Monday 27th August 2018.

For general enquiries: Giant Spectacular Giant.Spectacular@Liverpool.gov.uk

www.giantspectacular.com

www.cultureliverpool.co.uk

SOCIAL

Facebook, Instagram & Youtube: /GiantSpectacular

Twitter: @GiantSpectacle

#LiverpoolGiants



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PREVIOUS VISITS



Sea Odyssey (2012)

The Sea of Liverpool has swallowed up so many sailors, travellers and adventurers that you would think it was a cannibal. Icebergs are boat hunters and Liverpoolians are huge children with eyes full of hope and rebellion. For the unsinkable Titanic, her first voyage was also to be her last. But let's move right away to the story of one stowaway: loaded on board during the night, unnoticed - a thirty foot tall Giant capable of travelling through

time, on his way to another continent to meet his daughter, the Little Giant. Giants don't grow old, don't grow up, they just stay the age they are for eternity - that is, if they don't die. Disaster struck in the Atlantic Ocean; everyone knows the details of the accident. The ocean liner was the pride of Liverpool, and many different Liverpoolian tradesmen were recruited, mainly to maintain the ship and to look after the passengers. But let's return to our gigantic passenger trapped in one of the holds. He feels the full force of the iceberg's blade. The sea rushes into the ship so fiercely that he is unable to move. He is a prisoner and plummets 12,000 feet with the Titanic. We believe that, knowing he would soon die, he took his last underwater lift ride before coming to rest in a cloud of dust on the ocean bed. Above, petrified with fear, survivors hoped for miracles - some were rescued, that too is known. When the Little Giant heard the news, she sought out her uncle, the Great Giant's brother. While listening to her, the uncle made a decision that was to take him a century to carry out. First, he would make himself a diving suit. Then he would scour the ocean floor for the shipwreck. After that, he would bury his brother in the deep-sea bed. Most importantly, he would come back with the letter the Great Giant had written to the Little Giant Girl. This is why he walked for many long years across the ocean floor, pulling the Titanic's mail trunk to bring back the post to Liverpool.

Such tragedies do not affect the Little Giant's morale who bravely decided to come to the reunion. While reading magazines before leaving, she discovered that there are another two famed legends in Liverpool - The Beatles music, and the sheer madness for football of the rebel City.

Before setting up her first camp in Stanley Park, between the two football stadiums north of the city, she decides she will go on a cruise through the town on a road-sailing boat. A few hours before her arrival, as if by magic, a geyser shoots up from the ground in the city centre, to herald her arrival.



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Memories of August 1914 (2014)

Liverpool hosted one of the most astonishing events of the 2014 centenary when it welcomed the Giants onto its streets in a city-wide spectacular stretching across five uninterrupted days.

The world-renowned street theatre company Royal de Luxe retold the story of the famous Liverpool Pals Battalions, the young men who volunteered alongside their next-door

neighbours, family members and friends to fight for Britain on the battlefields of Europe. Giants including the Little Girl, much missed since her previous visit to Liverpool, and her pet dog Xolo roamed the city, drawing crowds into their ranks wherever they ventured.

In 2014 more than a million people – local, national and some from overseas – turned out to honour a courageous generation of Liverpoolians.