

## A Creative Workshop on the theme of 'Heroes'

In these three workshops we will explore the idea of heroes and what they mean to us, and we'll do some creative activities involving writing, drawing and photography.

To do this workshop you will need some paper, pen, pencil and a camera / phone. It may be fun to do these activities with someone else so you can compare responses as you work through them. You can write the main writing activities by hand and type your responses up later or if you prefer work directly onto the computer.

It would be wonderful if you sent in your responses and help us build up an online gallery. You will find details of how to send them at the end of the workshop plan.

To start off lets look at the dictionary definition of 'Hero'.

**Hero** - a person noted for courageous acts or nobility of character:  
*He became a local hero when he saved the drowning child.*

*a person who, in the opinion of others, has special achievements, abilities, or personal qualities and is regarded as a role model or ideal:*

*My older sister is my hero. Entrepreneurs are our modern heroes.*

*the principal male character in a story, play, film, etc.*  
*Classical Mythology.*

*a being of godlike prowess and beneficence who often came to be honored as a divinity.*

*(in the Homeric period) a warrior-chieftain of special strength, courage, or ability.*

*(in later antiquity) an immortal being; demigod.*

So these days heroes are figures who we admire, look up to, place on a pedestal, emulate, and feel inspired by. And obviously these figures can change throughout our lives, the heroes we have when we are children differ in their qualities from those we have in later life.

## Part 1

Task 1 – Make a list of the different heroes you have had during your life. These can be real familiar people you know or have known but they may also include celebrities, sports people, singers, actors, historical and even fictional characters.

Task 2 – Next to each of your heroes' names draw an object that you associate with this person such as a tool, a weapon, an ornament, an item of clothing, an accessory etc.

Task 3 – Write a short description of each object you have drawn noting colours, shape, size, texture, scent, solidity, what it is used for, what it is made from or how it was created and what qualities or characteristics of the hero does it symbolize.

Task 4 – Choose one of the objects and write a list poem (it doesn't have to rhyme). Each line should add to the story of the object.

Two Examples –

### **Web Slinger**

This is the sticky web that Spiderman fires  
This is the sticky web he slings between sky-scrapers  
This is the sticky web he swings on through the streets  
This is the sticky web he catches his enemies in  
This is the sticky web he can spin into a parachute  
This is the sticky web he shoots from his wrists  
This is the sticky web that's part of his suit  
This is the sticky web he net the Green Goblin  
This is the sticky web that Hulk can just snap  
This is the sticky web he uses to save lives  
This is the sticky web he used to snare a bus to stop it falling off a bridge  
This is the sticky web he strings up like a hammock to have a quick nap  
This is the sticky web he weaves to keep the neighbourhood friendly  
This is the sticky web that gives him the edge  
This is the sticky web that couldn't save poor Uncle Ben

## **My Dad's Hammer**

My Dad's Ball-Peen hammer  
My Dad's hammer with its rusty old head  
My Dad's heavy hammer that once had a shiny face  
My Dad's hammer with its worn wooden handle  
My Dad's hammer that he bought with his first pay packet  
My Dad's hammer with no rubber grip  
My Dad's hammer he could flip into the air and catch  
My Dad's hammer with its pitted orange cheeks  
My Dad's hammer with its sculpted neck  
My Dad's hammer that he lugged around in his big tool bag  
My Dad's hammer in the tool bag in the cupboard under the stairs  
My Dad's hammer that smashed bricks and paving slabs  
My Dad's hammer with one its dark eye hole  
My Dad's hammer speckled with plaster and cement  
My Dad's hammer that drove nails into wood  
My Dad's hammer that sank dents in metal  
My Dad's hammer that shattered panes of glass  
My Dad's hammer that he swung in his hand in a perfect arc  
My Dad's hammer that he's use as if it was as light as a feather  
My Dad's hammer that cracked like a thunder clap when it struck  
My Dad's hammer that echoed back and forth across building sites  
My Dad's hammer that beat out a rhythm of work like a tribal drum  
My Dad's Ball-Peen hammer that raised clouds of dust  
My Dad's hammer that helped him dismantle the old to build the new  
My Dad's hammer that helped him make money  
My Dad's hammer that helped him put food on our table  
My Dad's hammer that was lost for a while at the back of his shed  
My Dad's hammer that he swore blind at when he couldn't find it  
My Dad's hammer that he had to replace with a new one  
My Dad's hammer that he found again in a bucket covered in cobweb  
My Dad's hammer that he once lent to me and I forgot to give it back  
My Dad's hammer that I watched him wield like The Mighty Thor  
My Dad's hammer that now sleeps in my sideboard drawer

