

Lesson ideas for *The Golden Llama* by Aleesah Darlison



Note: These activities are not meant to detract from the children's enjoyment of the book, but rather add to it. Identifying the techniques that author Aleesah Darlison has used to create humour helps children learn about and appreciate language and may encourage them to experiment with similar techniques in their own writing.

If the activities are exploratory and fun, especially if they have been child-initiated, the children will learn easily and eagerly. Download other [fun free activities](#) from the Penguin website.



Words with double letters

Set the children a time (e.g. five or ten minutes) and have them scan the book for words with double letters (not just double l). They make a list of the words they find. Who can find the most?



Place Names

Have the children scan the book for place names e.g. Chickenslovakia. Have them identify the real country for which the llama-world country is named and mark it on a map.



Other Names

Do the same for the names of other things, people, constellations and artworks.

Many of the names are llamafied for the story.

If you read the story aloud to the class, you could make a list of these llama-words and the words they are based on as you go.



Acronyms

Many acronyms are used in the story. Acronyms are abbreviations in which the first letter in each word is used to form a word. For example, LOL stands for League Of Llamas or, equally appropriate, Laugh Out Loud. What other acronyms are used in the book?



Don't be allarmaed!

Darlison has llamafied (changed to 'llama' words) many common words; for example, llamaborghini, Halle-llama, lluxurious.

Find and list the llamafied words in the text.

Llamafy your own list of words. Write them in sentences.



Fun with calculators

When Phillippe, LOL's top-secret agent was trying to remember the security code for General Bottomburp's study door, he punched different combinations of numbers into the panel. Each combination spelt out words. (see pages 5 – 7)

Enter the same combination of numbers into your calculator. What words do they spell?

What other words can you spell using your calculator?

Can you write a secret message to your friends by getting them to enter numbers onto their calculators?

What was the secret code that Phillippe was instructed to use? (Page 11) What was special about this code and why do you think it was chosen?

What would be a good code for you to remember? Why?

Read. Enjoy!

*Remember to check out the complete **League of Llamas** series by Aleesah Darlison, available from all good bookstores and www.penguin.com.au.*