

Macbeth

A sensory story



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By David Babatunde Wilson

Transition Music

Music is integral to so many sensory stories. Consistent transition music at the start and end of a story helps to enable children and young people to anticipate what is coming next and to participate more fully in the story-sharing process. They also help to set the mood for the story.

Please feel free to choose your own transition music. The following are only suggestions, but you will need two contrasting pieces (possibly using different instruments):

Introductory music:

- The ancient Celtic Carnyx

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRIQp4qZrrE>

Story ending:

- Haunted Scottish Castle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yltye3tlqAo>



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Resources

You will need some sensory resources available for this story. Please select the ones that are easiest for you to access.

- Witches' hats
- Curtain of green fabric strips
- Dark coloured shawls
- Sound switch - "Hubble, bubble, toil and trouble" and/or cackling laughter
- Witch's cauldron
- Red/orange tissue paper 'fire'
- Crown
- Screen or sound switch - Pharrell Williams 'Happy'
- Pillow / cushion
- Blanket
- Wooden dagger/knife
- Paper crowns / soft quoits
- Mirrors
- Camouflage fabric / hats
- Large branches
- Sound switch / screen - Highland dance music

Sensory resources should include tactile and physical activities.



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Sensory Resources & Experiences

- * Witches' hats
- * Dark coloured shawls
- * Curtain of green fabric strips for students to brush aside

Students walk round in a tight circle wearing witches' hats





Macbeth was the man
Walking through the wood
He met three witches
Up to no good

Sensory Resources & Experiences

- * Sound switch - "Hubble, bubble, toil and trouble" and/or cackling laughter
- * Witch's cauldron
- * Red/orange tissue paper 'fire'

Students stir coloured liquid
with a wooden spoon (gross
motor)





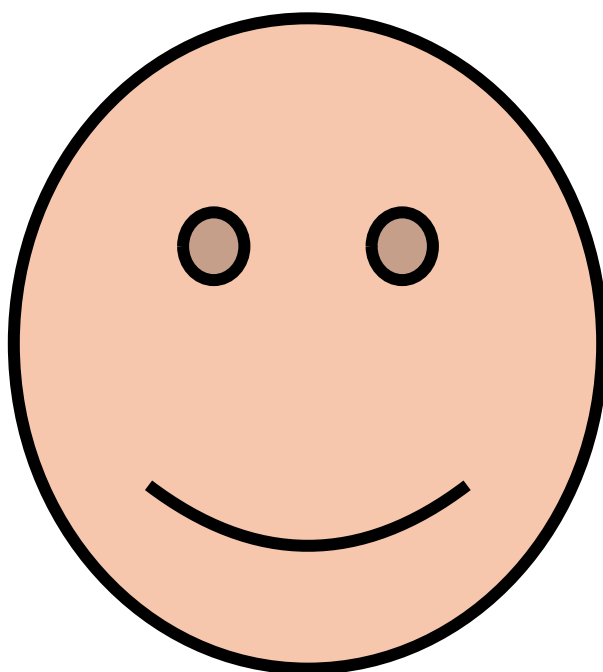
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"Hubble, bubble,
Toil and trouble"
They cacked and laughed
As they stood in a huddle

Sensory Resources &
Experiences

* Crown

* Screen or sound switch -
Pharrell Williams 'Happy'



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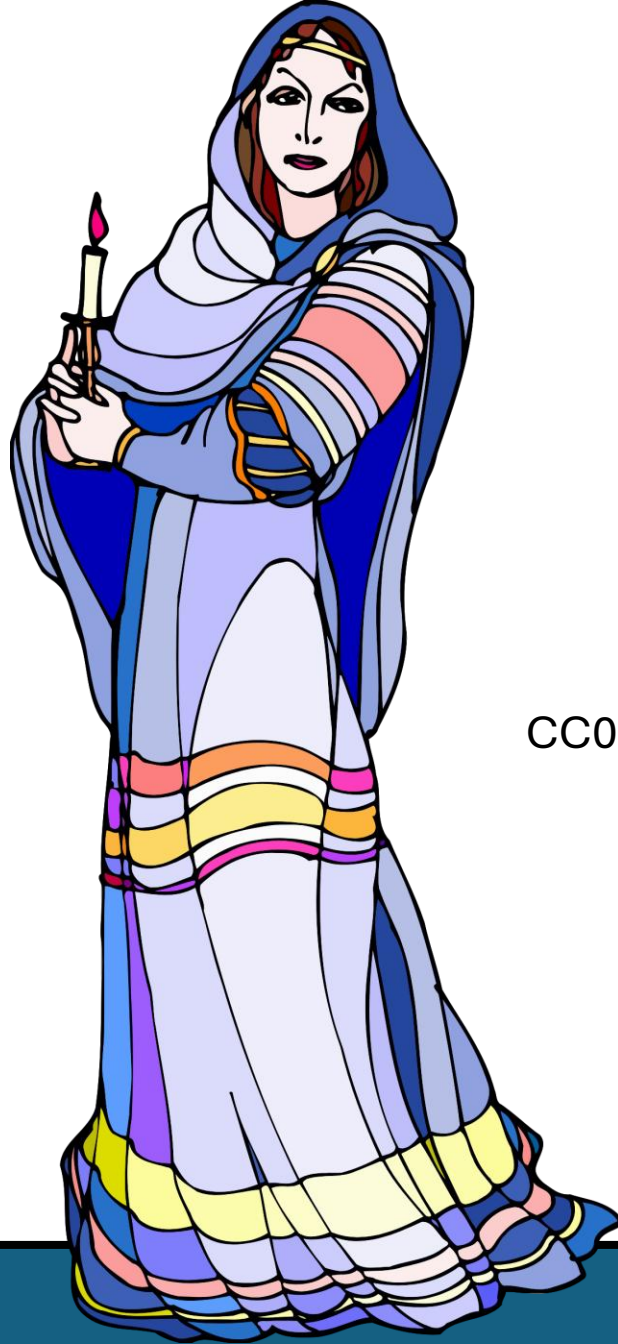


They told our Macbeth
One day he'd be king
Macbeth was so happy
His heart began to sing

Sensory Resources & Experiences

Rubbing hands together (gross motor)





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Macbeth told his wife
Who was nasty and mean
She rubbed her hands in glee
And started to scheme

Sensory Resources & Experiences

- * Pillow / cushion
- * Blanket
- * Wooden dagger/knife



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King Duncan came to stay
But while he slept in his bed
Macbeth crept in
Soon Duncan was dead

Sensory Resources & Experiences

Students place paper crowns or soft quoits on their own heads and balance them (coordination and gross motor - balance)

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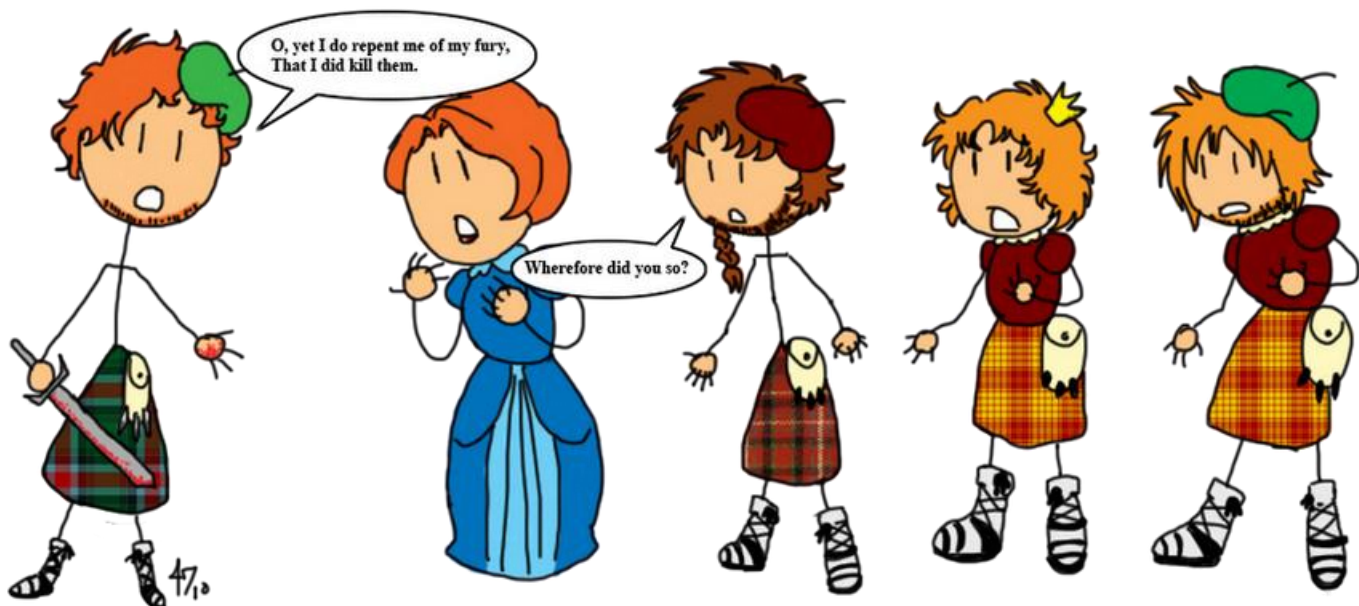


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Macbeth was made king
His dreams had come true
But he feared he'd be found
out
Then he'd be dead, too

Sensory Resources & Experiences

Mirrors - make frightened and
angry faces in mirror





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Macbeth was so frightened
He went quite mad
He was angry and cruel
He really was bad

Sensory Resources &
Experiences

Camouflage fabric / hats

Physical - stand to attention;
salute (gross motor)





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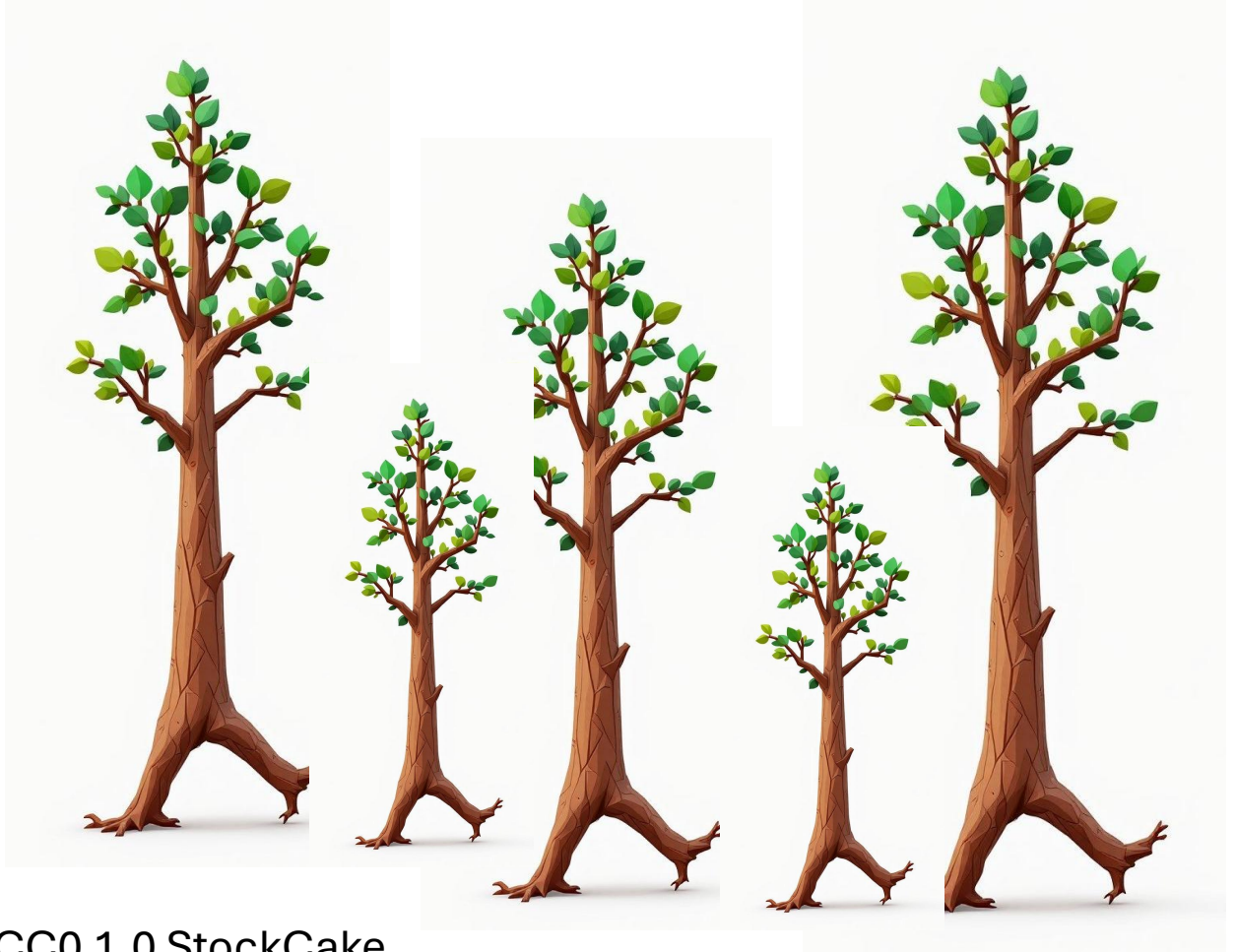
His friends get together
To gather an army
Which marches on Macbeth
Who really is barmy

Sensory Resources & Experiences

* Large branches

Physical - marching (gross
motor)





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The army cut down branches
So they look like trees
Like a forest marching
forward
Macbeth's army flees

Sensory Resources & Experiences

* Grass heads (students plant and grow grass heads to hold)



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Macbeth fights Macduff
Who cuts off his head
The fighting can stop
Now the madman is dead

Sensory Resources & Experiences

* Sound switch / screen -
Highland dance music

Physical - skip around (gross
motor)

Physical - clap along to the
rhythm (coordination)

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Everyone is happy
Now Macbeth is gone
Prince Malcolm holds a party
In his castle at Scone



Though he was born in Nigeria and brought up in Botswana, David Babatunde Wilson is settled in North Yorkshire. He divides his time between his jobs as a Dad, household cook, Guide helper, writing poetry and working as a Special Needs teacher.

David has had poems published in a variety of online and paper publications including Disabled Tales, View from Atlantis, Beyond the Pane, the Ledbury Poetry Festival and an anthology celebrating Rare Disease Day 2025.