



Achieve your dream

[KS3 > Skills > Writing to argue, advise, persuade > Achieve your dream](#)

How it works

The resource is a two-sided set of instructions; inviting students to write a letter of application to have their dream come true.

Try this!

Use it as the basis of some oral work (KS3 or KS4). To get students' thinking going, put them into groups of three or four and give them these 'wishful thinking' scenarios to discuss:

- You have won seven million on the lottery. What do you do with the money? How will it change your life?
- A genie will grant you one wish (or two or three). What will it (they) be?

Now get individuals or pairs to plan their 'dream', but get them to make their application *orally* and to a panel of students (between three and five). To spice it up, get the panel to respond like the panel on *X-Factor* or *The Apprentice*. In fact, deliberately exploit popular TV formats to give the presentations shape, 'spice' and glamour.

Or this!

Use the resource 'almost cold' as an assessment exercise in the style of the SATs or the APP optional tasks. However this works best if you do three things:

- give students the chance to share and develop their dreams
- model the writing of part of your own dream application
- get students to use level criteria to consciously pitch their own writing for an appropriate level of success. I suggest that you get students (and your marking) to target AF1 'write imaginative, interesting and thoughtful texts' and AF3 'organise and present whole texts effectively'.

You can view the APP materials here:

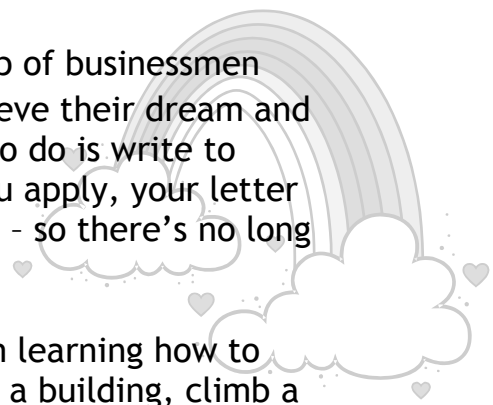
http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/secondary/keystage3/respub/englishpubs/ass_eng/

You might also like to consult the Reading and Writing Progression Grids which are available on Teachit in [Assessment and Targets](#).

Richard Durant

Achieve your dream ...

'Achieve your dream' is a charity set up to help make young people's lives better. There are so many pressures on young people today - exams, worries about their lives, the need to do well and fit in - that we saw a real need to make good things happen.

'Achieve your dream' was set up in 1997 by a group of businessmen and women. They want to help young people achieve their dream and to have happier and healthier lives. All you have to do is write to them and inspire them with your dream. When you apply, your letter is considered and responded to within three weeks - so there's no long wait to find out whether you will live your dream! 

Your dream is up to you! It could be anything from learning how to snowboard or canoe to having the chance to abseil a building, climb a mountain or ride a glider. You might dream of doing something incredible but too expensive to even consider, or simply yearn for an experience that is out of this world. We haven't run any trips to the moon just yet, but some young people *have* had the chance to touch the skies!

'Achieve your dream' has the money and the people that can make things happen for you. We have thousands of companies and celebrities who want to help make a difference.

'Achieve your dream' has helped thousands of children to have an experience that they will remember for a lifetime:

- Rachel had her chance to dance on stage in the West End in a performance of the ballet 'Swan Lake'. She has always wanted to be a dancer and she says that the experience made her 'determined to go for her dreams'.
- Paul asked for a chance to fly with the Red Arrows. He took part in an air show and says that 'his feet still haven't touched the ground!'
- Colette had her chance to go on safari and see elephants in their natural habitat: 'I've always been mad on elephants and to have the chance to see them in the wild is a dream come true. We had an amazing experience and I'd love to do it all over again!'

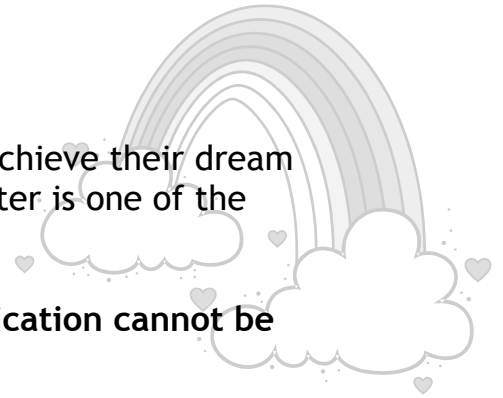
There must be something that you have always wanted to do or would like to try, perhaps something you have seen on TV. You could do something to learn a new skill or show off your talents. Whatever you choose, your dream is up to you!

So how can this happen for me?

You must apply by letter, typed or handwritten.

Only 700 young people are selected each year to achieve their dream so follow the instructions below to ensure your letter is one of the ones we select.

You must follow the outlines below or your application cannot be considered.



1. ALL ABOUT YOU

Tell us about you and your life. Where you live, where you go to school. Include a little bit about your family and friends. This will help us get to know you.

2. YOUR ACTIVITIES

Tell us how you spend your time. What do you enjoy doing? Do you have a part time job? Do you have any hobbies? How do you keep busy?

3. FUTURE PLANS

Write down what you would like to do in the future. What ambitions do you have? You might write down what qualifications you hope to gain and what career you are interested in.

4. THIS IS THE IMPORTANT PART!

What is your dream and *why*? What would you like our help to achieve? Who would you like involved? Would you want friends or family to come along? Try to add in lots of detail about your dream and about why you'd love it to come true. Persuade us that this is what you really want to do: give us reasons why we should pick *you* above all the other thousands of applications a year!