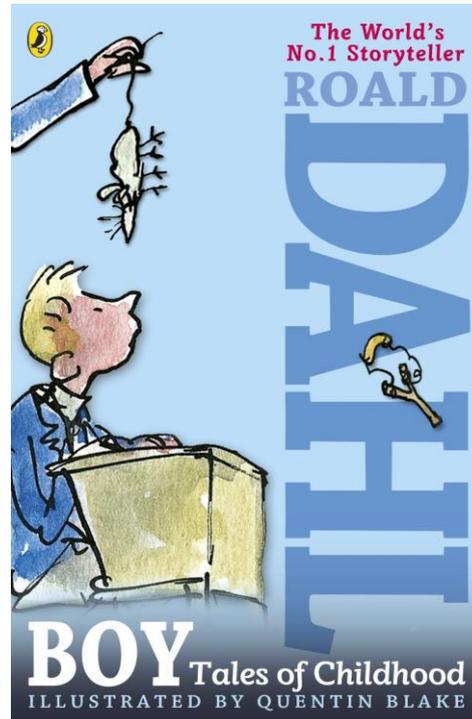




Write down somebody's life story!

Inspired by *Boy*



You don't have to have read the book to take part - but you can listen to the audiobook for free at [audible.co.uk](https://www.audible.co.uk)

Throughout his young days at school and just afterwards, a number of things happened to Roald Dahl which made such a tremendous impression he never forgot them. *Boy* is the remarkable story of Roald Dahl's childhood: tales of exciting and strange things - some funny, some frightening, all true.

Boy is Roald Dahl's autobiography. An autobiography is an account of a person's life told by that person. A biography is an account of someone's life told by someone else. This writing challenge invites you to write accounts of your life and other people's.

1. Write about your life

Describe the things you see every day. Roald Dahl was fascinated by his local sweet shop and devoted lots of his writing to detailed descriptions of the treats it sold. You don't have to look far from home to find writing inspiration!

You could start by writing about:

- Your pets
- Your family
- School

2. Write about somebody else's life

- Pick a favourite character from TV, film or a book. Imagine doing an interview with them and asking them about their history, and their likes and dislikes.
- Pick someone you know in real life and ask them if you can do a proper interview with them.

Once you have your answers, see if you can write out their life story.

You could start by drawing out a timeline stretching from their birth year until now (if they are still alive) and putting the events of their life into order.

Bonus activity

Make a miniature book to write the life story into, and decorate the pages with illustrations.

If you are speaking to somebody you know, ask if they have any old photos you can have showing them when they were younger. You could stick these photos into the book, or use them as inspiration for your own illustrations.

Explore more online

- Follow this [simple tutorial](#) to make a miniature book
- Watch a clip of the [BBC dramatisation](#) of *Boy*
- Explore these BBC Bitesize tips on [autobiographical writing](#)