

The Bewitching Of AVELINE JONES



Phil Hickes

Aveline Jones Event Pack

This event pack is designed to suit thrill-seeking Aveline fans aged 9+. Take your pick from the ideas and activity sheets below to create an event that'll entertain your readers and perhaps inspire them to write their own spooky story.

TOP TIPS

- Set the scene. Dim the lights, hand out torches, light some LED night lights, [play a spooky playlist](#).
- Remind your groups that no idea is a bad idea!
- If putting hands up is intimidating for some, talk in pairs, or write down ideas instead.
- To get everyone involved, print and cut out the questions or activities so everyone in the group can take it in turns to pick them out of a hat (or jar!).
- Have fun!

ACTIVITIES

SPOOKY STORYTIME

Read an extract from one of the Aveline Jones adventures, you can find extracts on Usborne.com

CREATE A WORD STORM CLOUD

Draw a storm cloud on the white board/flip chart and fill it with as many spooky words as you can think of, here are some to get your started: spine-tingling, bone-chilling, shuddered, gruesome, terrifying, rustling, scratching, howling.

ENTER THE LOCAL LEGEND STORY COMPETITION

Create your own spooky local legend for the chance to have it turned into a short story written by Phil Hickes and featured in the back of the third Aveline Jones book!

Head to usborne.com/avelinejones to find out more and download the entry form.

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CROW SPOTTING

Print, cut out and stick the crows around your space and challenge your group to find them all.
Print as many as you like!



Creating characters

Before you start writing a story, you'll need to create a main character – a 'protagonist' – and an 'antagonist', a character who gets in the way of what the protagonist wants.

Fill in the profiles below, and start thinking how you can bring your characters to life.

Protagonist

This could be someone who's investigating a haunting, or who has witnessed some kind of terrible crime.

Weak points

Give your protagonist weaknesses as well as strengths. It helps build tension in the story if there's a chance the protagonist might not succeed.

Name

Does he/she have any special abilities?

What are his/her distinguishing features?

Does he/she have a sidekick or any close friends?

What is his/her greatest ambition?

What is he/she afraid of?

What words best describe him/her?

This activity and more can be found in *Write your own Mystery and Ghost Stories*

Finding ideas

Feeling stuck? You could borrow a character from a book or a film, and add new traits to make it your own. Alternatively, take someone you've read about in a newspaper or magazine. You could even star in your story, along with your friends.

Name

What does he/she/it look like?

What drives him/her/it?

Does he/she/it have any strange habits?

Does anything make him/her/it happy?

How does the antagonist react when he/she/it is angry?

What frightens him/her/it?

More than skin deep

Give your characters personal struggles that your reader can identify with, such as a deep regret or a fear of loneliness. Once your reader begins to care about your characters, there's more at stake when things start to go wrong...



Antagonist

This might be a kidnapper, or a ghost that becomes dangerous when it's disturbed.

Haunted painting

A boy is rooting through some old junk in his grandmother's attic, when he discovers a painting covered in dust. He brings it downstairs, and soon realizes that something is not quite right... it's haunted.

The haunted painting is shown here on the right. Write a story about what happens next.

Questions

Who is the girl in the painting?

Does the boy recognize anything? The girl? The doll? Or the room itself?

Whose shadow is lurking in the background?

What's written in the letter on the desk?

An element of doubt

Build the tension in your story by throwing in an element of doubt.

Perhaps the boy catches something moving out of the corner of his eye. Was it the painting, or was it just his active imagination?

Your reader will feel a sense of anticipation as he or she waits to find out what happens.

Write your story title here.

More than meets the eye...

Often, ghosts have unfinished business they want to resolve. Think about what unfinished business might be connected to the painting.

- Is there a family secret, such as a terrible crime or a tragic death, that is about to be exposed?
- Is the girl in the painting seeking revenge for her own murder?
- Is she trying to warn the boy about something? Perhaps the boy's grandmother is not who she seems?



This activity and more can be found in *Write your own Mystery and Ghost Stories*

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Phil Hicke

Spooky Wordsearch

Can you find all of the ghostly words
hidden in the wordsearch below?

B	A	M	A	L	M	O	U	T	H	Y	U	T	R	E
P	R	I	M	R	O	S	E	O	T	E	I	G	Y	W
E	H	Q	A	J	K	L	K	P	I	S	J	J	K	S
G	H	R	H	V	P	U	O	U	Y	U	M	B	N	C
H	A	A	J	R	E	T	M	J	N	D	C	S	S	A
O	Q	H	U	V	R	L	K	Y	Y	E	R	P	U	R
S	G	W	F	N	T	E	I	N	H	D	F	O	U	E
T	H	A	N	H	T	L	P	N	N	C	V	O	Y	C
S	G	D	E	F	G	I	Y	H	E	I	X	K	T	R
Y	F	S	T	D	Q	A	N	N	A	H	W	Y	R	O
J	D	N	M	G	L	A	C	G	X	N	C	D	F	W
Z	S	B	H	A	L	L	O	W	E	E	T	P	D	S
E	A	V	M	F	N	Z	B	U	S	J	F	O	A	L
S	W	C	J	H	V	B	F	T	D	K	G	H	M	M
W	A	V	E	S	G	F	I	J	F	G	B	M	N	S

Aveline

Scarecrows

Halloween

Malmouth

Haunting

Ghosts

Phantoms

Primrose

Spooky

Waves

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Phil Hicke

Make your own doorhanger!

CUT ALONG
THE LINES



COLOUR IN

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Write spooky secret messages

What you'll need:

- Half a lemon
- Water
- Spoon
- Bowl
- Cotton bud
- White paper
- Lamp or other light bulb

Instructions:

- Squeeze some lemon juice into the bowl and add a few drops of water.
- Mix the water and lemon juice with the spoon.
- Dip the cotton bud into the mixture and write a message onto the white paper.
- Wait for the juice to dry so it becomes completely invisible.
- When you are ready to read your secret message or show it to someone else, heat the paper by holding it close to a light bulb.

What's happening?

Lemon juice is an organic substance that oxidizes and turns brown when heated. Diluting the lemon juice in water makes it very hard to notice when you apply it to the paper. No one will be aware of its presence until it is heated and the secret message is revealed. Other substances which work in the same way include orange juice, honey, milk, onion juice, vinegar and wine. Invisible ink can also be made using chemical reactions or by viewing certain liquids under ultraviolet (UV) light.

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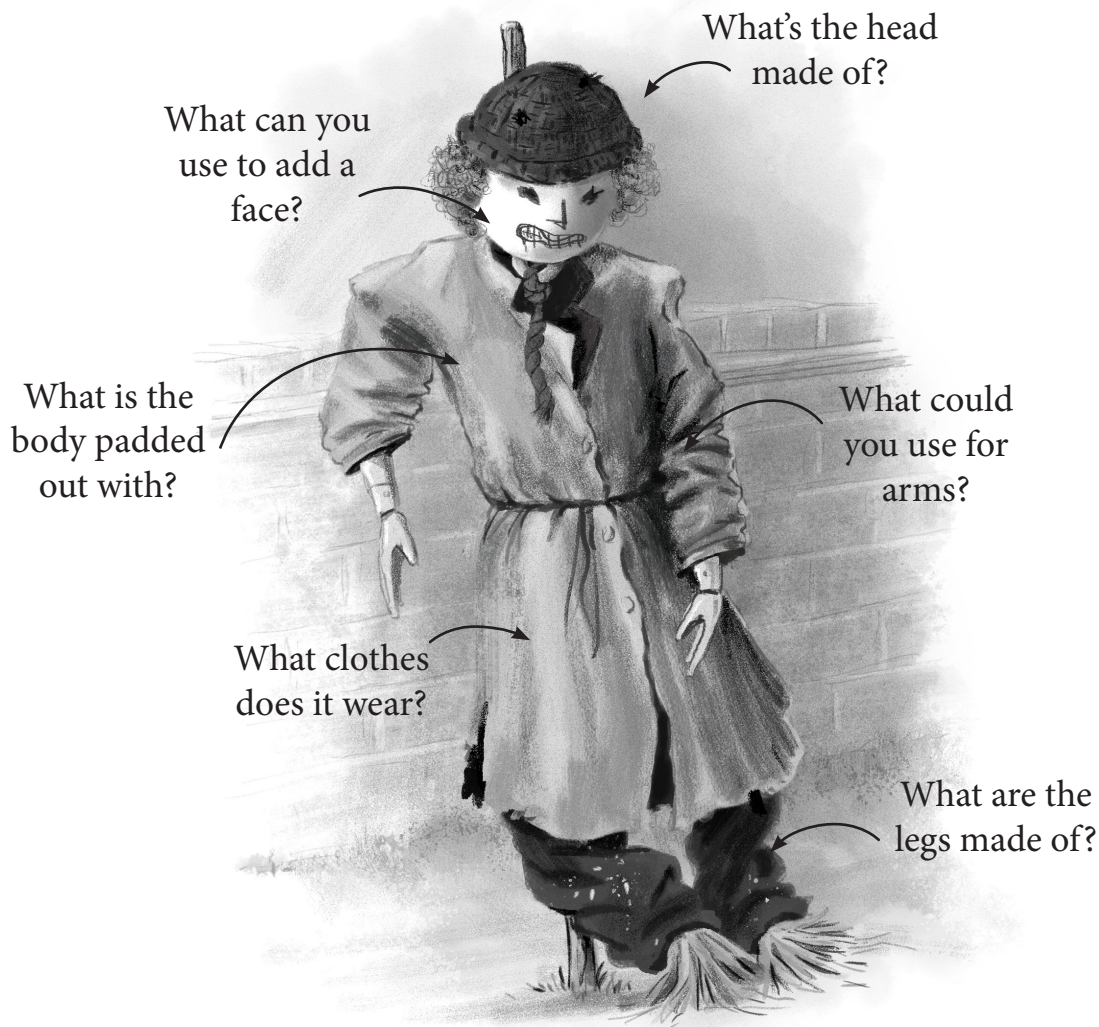
Phil Hickes

Create your own scarecrow!

The Lady in the Waves is coming! What materials would you use to make a scarecrow like the one Aveline Jones spots below?

Here's a few ideas to get you started:

- a pumpkin • straw • a balloon • tree branch • buttons
- newspaper • bubble-wrap • old clothes • gloves



What will your scarecrow look like?!

Don't forget to ask a grown-up to share your spooky creation with us on Twitter!

@Usborne @Hickesy #AvelineJones