



# Roald Dahl

Roald Dahl was a spy, ace fighter pilot, chocolate historian and medical inventor. He was also the author of *Matilda*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *The BFG* and many, many more beloved, brilliant stories. He is known best for writing stories about brave children, facing awful adults, with monstrous behaviours. His books often have a magical element to them, are sometimes revolting to read but are always utterly enjoyable!

Style of Writing	Specific books/ examples
<p>Use of expanded noun phrases for detailed descriptions of his ensemble of villainous, wicked characters.</p>	<p>George's Marvellous Medicine - "It was a thin icy smile, the kind a snake might make just before it bites you."                      "It was her face that frightened him the most of all, the frosty smile, the brilliant unblinking eyes."</p> <p>Matilda - "She was a gigantic holy terror, a fierce tyrannical monster who frightened the life out of the pupils and teachers alike".</p> <p>James and the Giant Peach - "Aunt Sponge was enormously fat and very short. She had small piggy eyes, a sunken mouth and one of those white flabby faces that looked exactly as though it had been boiled. She was like a great white soggy overboiled cabbage."                      "Aunt Spiker, on the other hand, was lean and tall and bony, and she wore steel-rimmed spectacles that fixed on to the end of her nose with a clip. She had a screeching voice and long wet narrow lips, and whenever she got angry or excited, little flecks of spit would come shooting out of her mouth as she talked."</p>

<p>Listing verbs in a repetitive way to describe a character's actions/ traits in detail. This gives the reader a lot of information in just one effective sentence.</p>	<p>The Witches - "It rapped. It grated. It snarled. It scarpered. It shrieked. It growled."</p> <p>George's Marvellous Medicine "she was always complaining, grouching, grouching, grumbling, griping about something or other."</p>
<p>Rhetorical Questions</p>	<p>James and the Giant Peach "Creatures? Or were they insects? An insect is usually something rather small, is it not? A grasshopper, for example, is an insect. So what would you call it if you saw a grasshopper as large as a dog? As large as a large dog. You could hardly call that an insect, could you?"</p>
<p>Sometimes writing in first person</p>	<p>Boy - "When writing about oneself, one must strive to be truthful. Truth is more important than modesty. I must tell you, therefore, that it was I and I alone who had the idea for the great and daring Mouse Plot. We all have our moments of brilliance and glory, and this was mine."</p>

Roald Dahl books to try:

1961 – James and the Giant Peach

1964 (US) 1967 (UK) – Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

1966 – The Magic Finger

Holy Trinity C of E School – Author Styles

1970 – Fantastic Mr Fox

1972 – Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator

1975 – Danny, the Champion of the World

1978 – The Enormous Crocodile

1980 – The Twits

1981 – George's Marvellous Medicine

1982 – The BFG

1983 – The Witches

1985 – The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me

1988 – Matilda

1990 – Esio Trot

1991 – The Vicar of Nibbleswicke (Posthumously)

1991 – The Minpins (Posthumously)

2005 – Roald Dahl's Incredible Chocolate Box (published posthumously for World Book Day, and including a missing chapter from Charlie and the Chocolate factory).

## Children's poetry

1982 – Revolting Rhymes

1983 – Dirty Beasts

1989 – Rhyme Stew

Click the link for more information:

[www.RoaldDahl.com](http://www.RoaldDahl.com)