

Mr Pegg's Post

Written and Illustrated by Elena Topouzoglou
Published by New Frontier Publishing

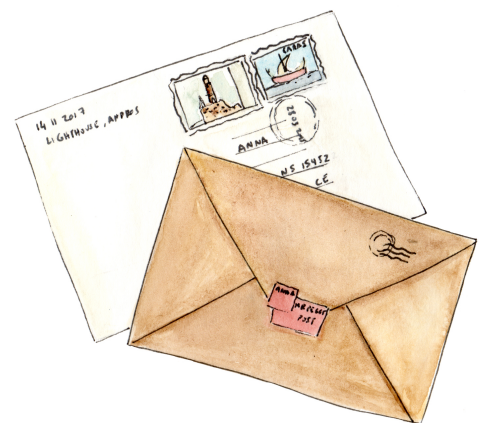
Teacher's Guide

The Story

“Mr Pegg’s Post” is about a little girl Anna, who lives in a secluded lighthouse and her only visitor is a pelican postman called Mr Pegg. On one particular day, Mr Pegg needs help and Anna is there to help him with his deliveries and along the way she gets to meet new friends.

About this Guide

These discussion questions and activities are designed to support the goal of helping students explore the book and their own creativity.



Author/Illustrator Style or Medium

Mr Pegg the Postman Pelican was inspired from the well-known pelican “Petros” that used to live on the island of Mykonos and the lighthouse depicted within the book is based on a real lighthouse found on the island of Andros. The background illustrations are mainly drawn from the author/illustrator’s childhood memories of the Greek islands and her love of the sea. The illustrations were created with watercolours, ink and finished digitally.

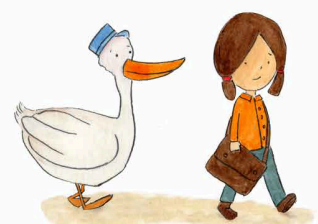


Author/Illustrator Background Information:

Elena is an author & illustrator originally from Greece and now resides in London with her husband and their two young sons.

She has worked for 10 years as a Visual Effects Compositor. During this time she worked on the Oscar-winning movies Gravity and Hugo and many other well-known films such as Beauty and the Beast, Paddington Bear and Harry Potter. Elena’s love for books & drawing combined with the influence of her son’s love for children’s books led her to study and graduate with an MA in Children’s Book Illustration from Middlesex University.

She works mainly with watercolour, ink, screen printing and finishes her artwork digitally. She is passionate about writing/making cards, penguins and films.



Discussion Topics and Questions

Before and during reading the book:

1. Before reading the book to the kids ask them to look at the cover illustration. What do they think will happen in the story? Read the title for them or try and read it with them.
2. Ask the students if any of them have visited a lighthouse? Talk about the importance of a lighthouse and what used to be the duties of a lighthouse keeper.
3. Anna was lonely. Discuss what it means to be lonely and how we can help others when feeling lonely. What can we do when we are feeling lonely ourselves?
4. Ask students if they have received a letter or a parcel? How did that make them feel?
5. Find out about pelicans! Has anyone seen a pelican? Where can you find them? What do they eat?
6. Encourage students to look for nautical items that are included in the second spread. Does anyone know how to tie nautical knots? What is the purpose of a life saver?
7. Who has been in a rowboat? Did they get to row the boat? Who likes to sing Row Row your boat?
8. Ask children what they know about Greece and Greek islands? Have they ever visited one? What animals live in the islands? (sea turtles, geckos, rabbits, ducks)
9. Encourage students to look for other things included in each illustration. Do they know what a Windmill is?
10. Would they like to live in a lighthouse? Ask them to imagine how it would be to live in a lighthouse for a week.

After reading the book:

1. Ask children to retell the story in their own way.
2. Could they think of an alternative ending for the story?
3. Which part of the story did they enjoy the most and why? Who was their favourite character?

Activities

Draw/create your own lighthouse

Using the lighthouse of the book as a starting point ask children to draw their own lighthouse. Show children different kinds of lighthouses and identify with them the more recognisable lighthouses. What are the main elements of a lighthouse and what colours are used for lighthouses and why?

Examples of different kinds of lighthouses:

<http://boredbug.com/30-beautiful-lighthouses-captured-around-world/>

<https://weather.com/photos/places/news/amazing-lighthouses-world-photos-20130702>

Children could also like to try and make 3D lighthouses out of recycled plastic cups.

For this activity children will need:

- red plastic cup
- smaller clear cup
- white tape
- glue
- scissors
- paper
- battery operated tea light



Check out sites such as:

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-for-kids/lighthouse/>

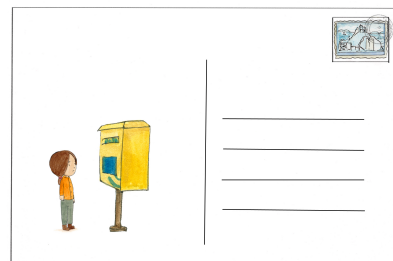
<http://www.dltk-teach.com/shapes/mlighthouse.htm>

Create a postcard to send to Anna or a friend

Before trying this activity, it's best to have a collection of postcards to show the children. They can use the postcards to trace the shape and cut the paper or they can use the template provided. Identify the rectangle shape with them on the top, for the stamp and how underneath the stamp there are 4-5 lines for the address. On the front they can glue some of the pictures you will provide for them or they can draw their own picture.

For this activity children will need:

- Scissors
- Ruler
- A stamp
- Glue and photos
- Crayons/markers
- Cardboard/paper



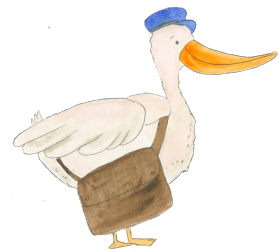
Draw Mr Pegg the Postman Pelican

Create your own version of Mr Pegg. Before starting to draw him find information and images of Pelicans. Visit the library and find a book about pelicans or look up information online: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/birds/group/pelicans/>

Then children can draw their own version of Mr Pegg or create a 3D version of him.

<http://learncreatelove.com/printable-pelican-craft/>

<http://mosswoodconnections.com/pelican-paper-plate-craft-project/>

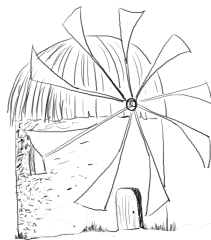


Create a windmill

Before trying this activity, talk to the children about windmills and their importance. Show them different examples of windmills and then help them create their own with the attached template.

Materials:

- Scissors
- Toilet paper roll
- Paper
- Scissors
- Crayons/markers
- Printer



Check out sites such as:

<http://www.dltk-kids.com/world/netherlands/mwindmill.htm>

Kids that enjoyed this activity might also like to make their own pinwheel:

<http://kidsahead.com/external/activity/562>

<http://www.dltk-holidays.com/spring/mpinwheel.htm>

Make and Address envelopes

Teach children how to make and address envelopes. If you are a parent or know the child's home address write the child's name and address on a note card for them to copy. The child will not only learn the envelope format but also learn their own address.

<https://www.thespruce.com/easy-folded-paper-envelope-2905553>

<http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/miscellaneous/maddress.html>

Postage Stamps

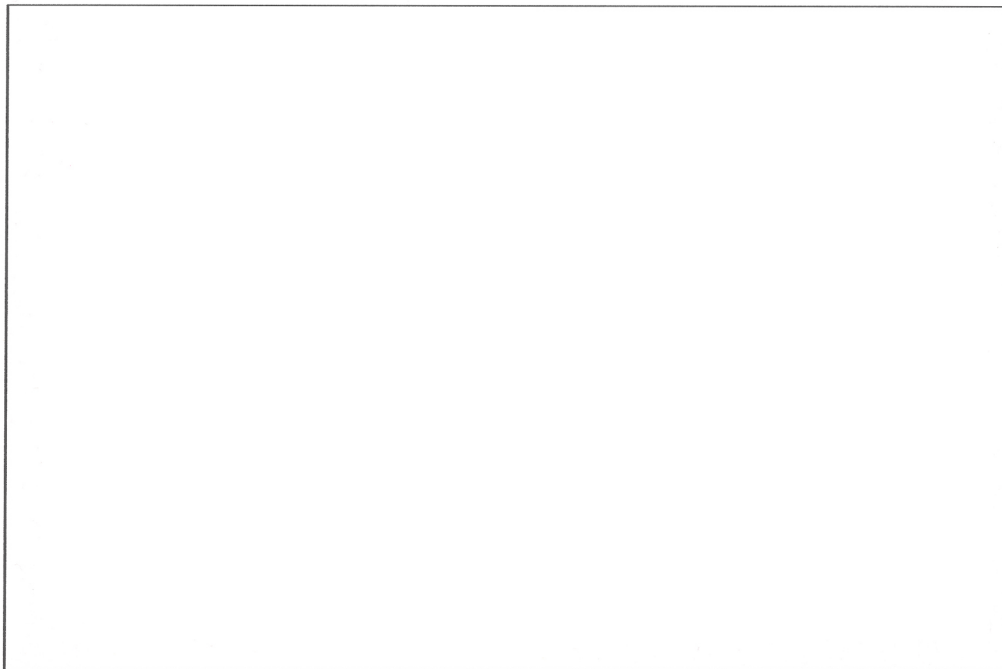
Children might also enjoy designing their own postage stamps. Encourage children to visit their local post office and look through different kinds of stamps. Also bring a box of stamps for them to look through and explain the importance of stamps.

Check out sites such as:

<http://www.artisbasic.com/2013/10/design-postage-stamp.html>

https://postalmuseum.si.edu/education/pdfs/Lesson_1.pdf

Postcard Template



← Draw your image here

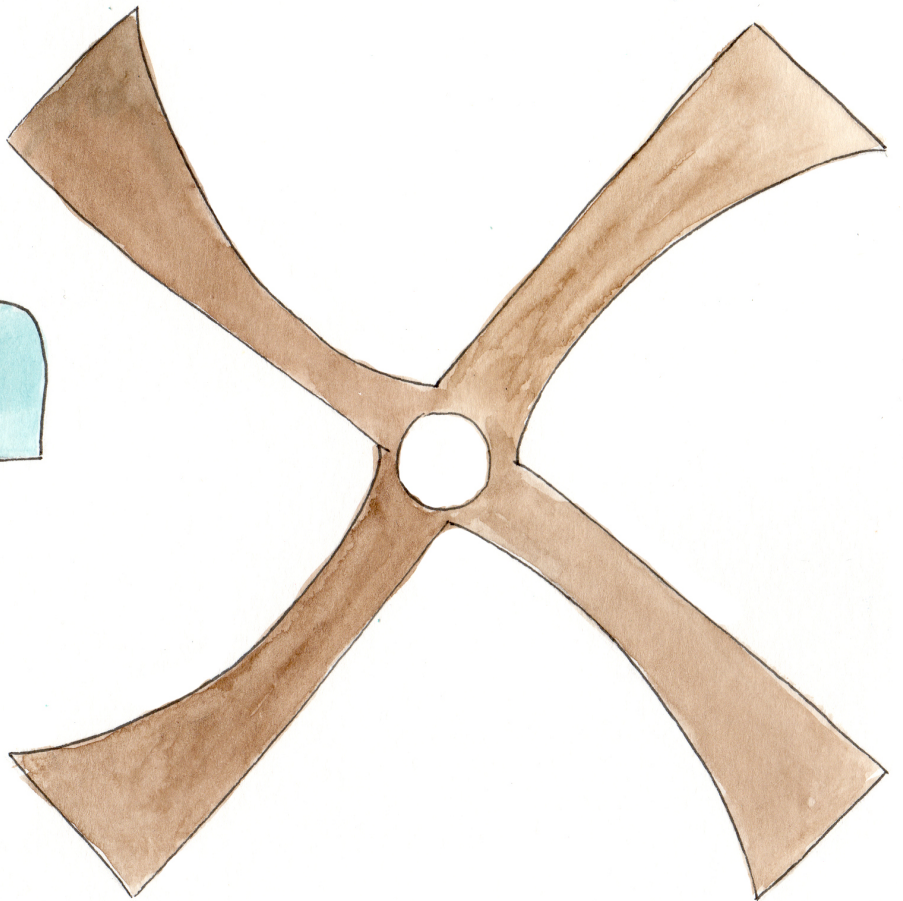
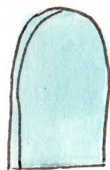
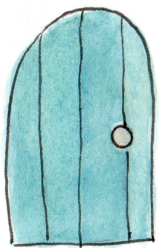
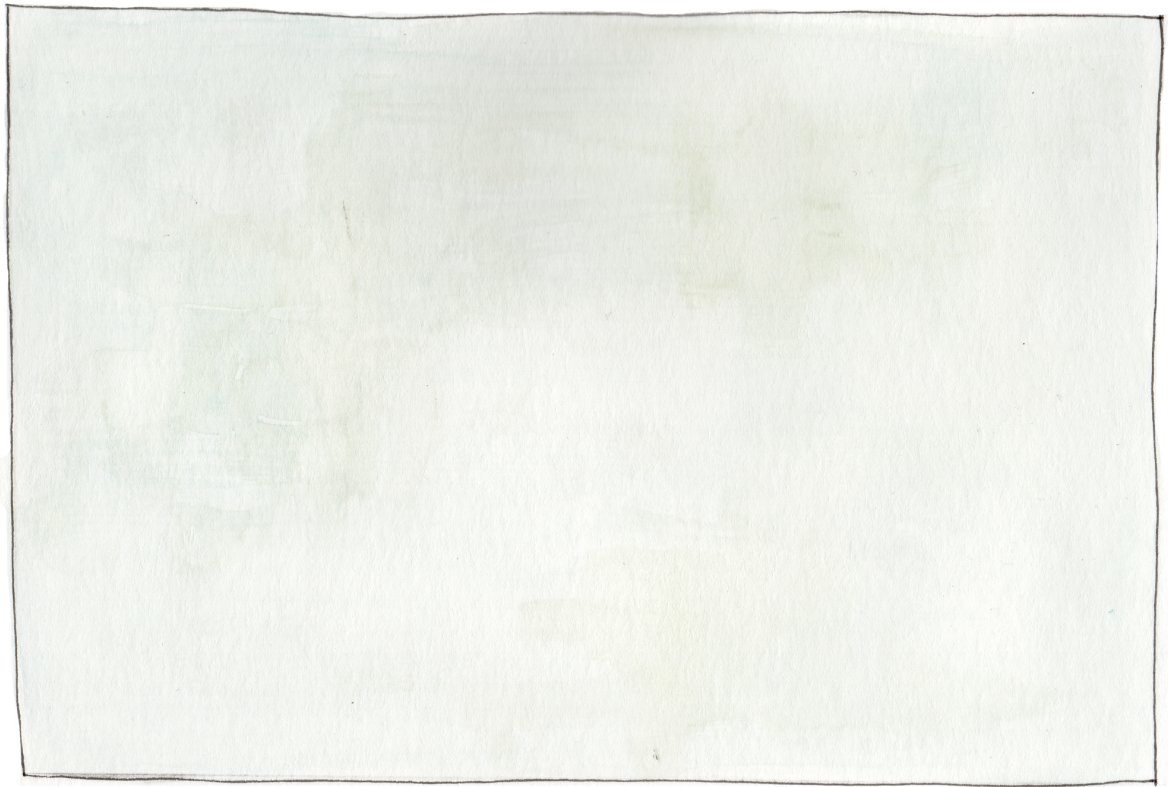
Postcard

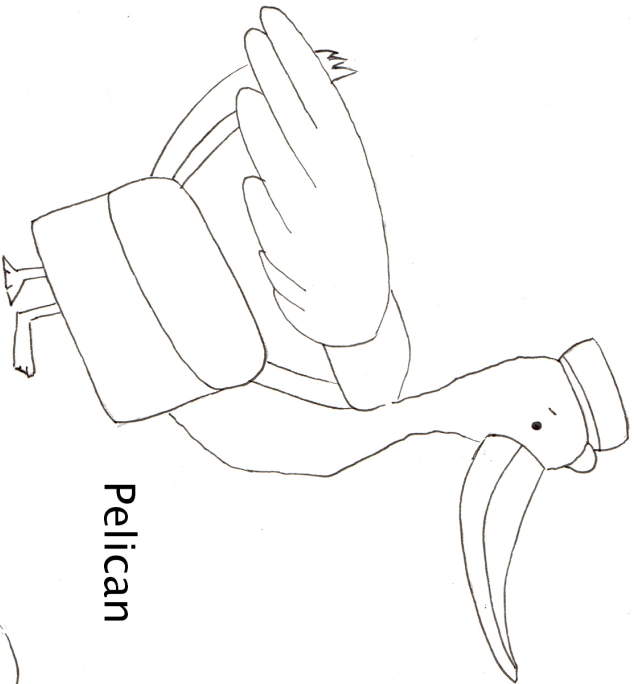
Stick your stamp here

Write the address of the person you are sending the postcard to.

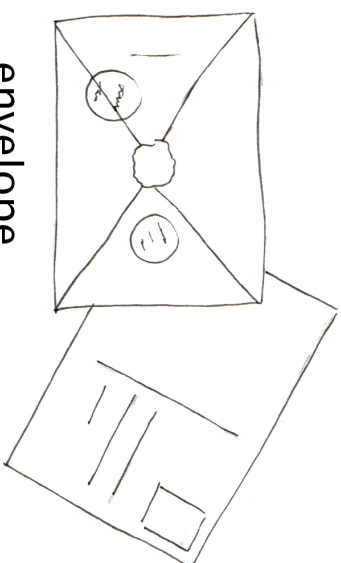
The postcard template is divided into two main sections. The top section is a large rectangle for drawing. The bottom section is a rectangle containing a vertical line on the left, a small square box for a stamp on the right, and four horizontal lines for an address below the stamp. The word "Postcard" is written in the top right of the bottom section.

Windmill Template



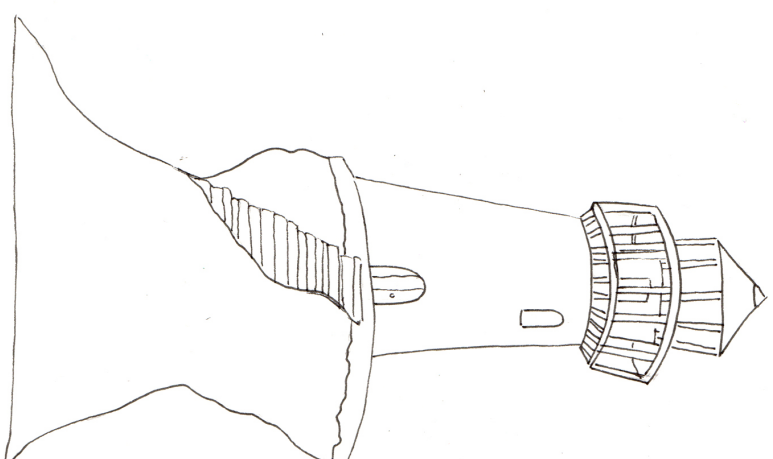


Pelican

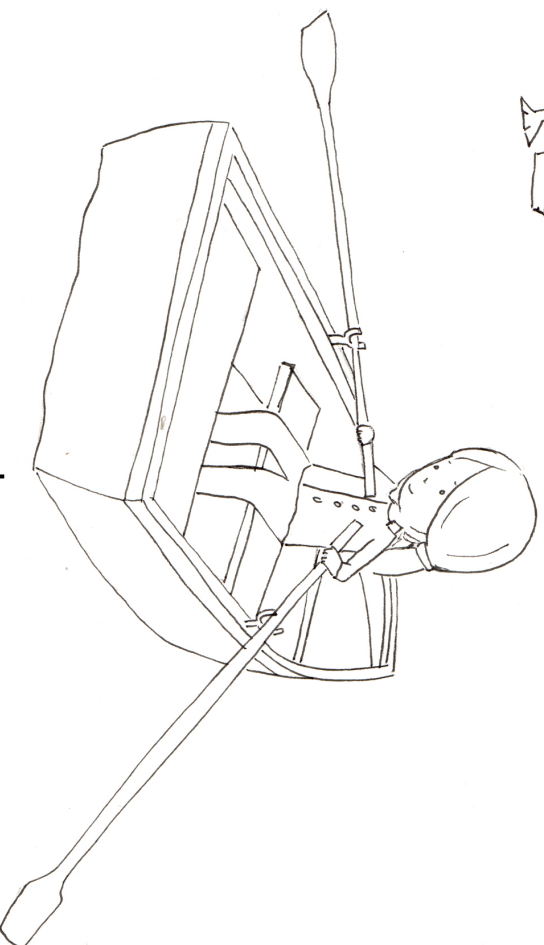


envelope

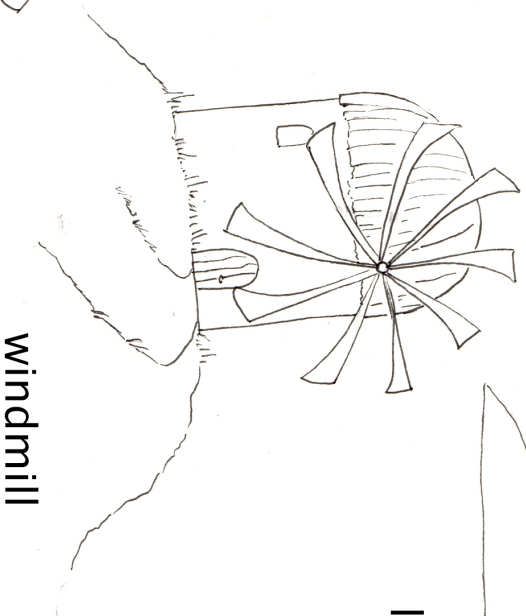
postcard



lighthouse



rowboat



windmill