

# URSULA'S WRITING IDEAS

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APRIL ASKS



**Q**uestions and answers, questions and answers. All through world for thousands of years, people have been using questions and answers to explore the world, to find out what other people think and even to find out what they think themselves! And to tell stories...

So this month, for a change, let's write a play! And let's put the dialogue in the form of questions and answers. Start with a situation, where one character asks a question and the other one replies. Here's one I've made up:



SCENE: A lost **ant** is asking a **beetle** which way to the nearest anthill

ANT: Excuse me, Beetle, but I wonder if you could help me?

BEETLE: I don't think I can. I'm in a big hurry.

ANT: What's the rush?

BEETLE: Look up in the sky! There's a storm coming.

ANT: Oh no and I'm lost! Please, please, can you tell me where the nearest anthill is?

Now, you might find the questioner and the answerer swap roles. Read on:

BEETLE: Okay, okay. Calm down. Do you know the third giant fig tree after the 25th boulder?

ANT: No, I don't even know the first boulder.

BEETLE: Mmm. Well, do you know the river that crosses the creek that runs into the dam next to the haunted cave?

ANT: (panicking) No! Help! I'm lost! I'm lost!

That poor ant, it's going to take quite a while to find that anthill ...

Over to you! You can continue this play with the ant and the beetle if you like. Or you can make up a whole new play of your own. If you're stuck for an idea, here's a few more situations you could try.

A **clown** at a children's party asks the **birthday boy or girl** why nobody is laughing

A **thief** asks a **police officer** how to get the stolen car to start

A **student** is late to cooking class, and the **teacher** wants to know why

When you've written enough, why not act out your dialogues to your friends or family?

Happy questions  
(and answers!)



Ursula