

For  
Ages  
11+

A Library Activity Pack  
**BLM ACTIVITY BOOK**



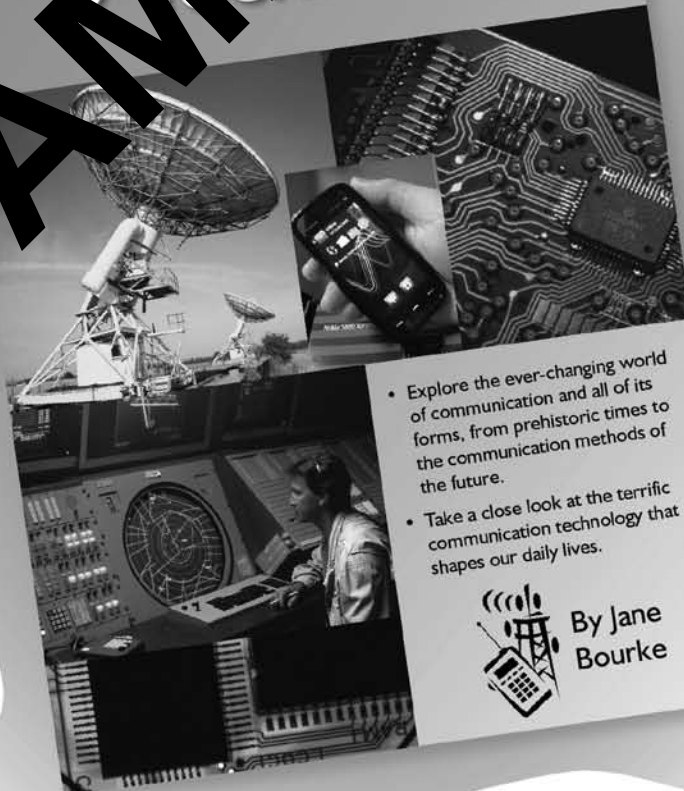
# Communication & Technology

For use with the  
Communication & Technology resource book



# SAMPLE

## Communication & Technology



- Explore the ever-changing world of communication and all of its forms, from prehistoric times to the communication methods of the future.
- Take a close look at the terrific communication technology that shapes our daily lives.



By Jane Bourke

By Jane Bourke

A complete learning centre package for the library. Set against the backdrop of communication, this innovative package acts as a springboard for developing and enhancing thinking and creativity skills.

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## Task 7: Alphabet Adventure

**Materials:** Technology and Communication resource book, library books, WWW access, pen, paper.

**Task:** Devise a new alphabet. Explain how your alphabet works. You can opt to make it a phonetic alphabet or a pictorial alphabet, similar to the Egyptian hieroglyphics. Make a chart to show what each letter/picture represents. Your new **letters** may represent sounds OR words.

1. Present your new alphabet on a chart and provide detailed instructions for its use.

2. Explain the logistics of your new communication system.

- How does your system work?
- How is it better than the Roman alphabet?
- How is it different?
- How is it worse?
- How can it be improved?

### EXAMPLE

ℓ	=	the
Ω	=	on
⋈	=	me
↗	=	time
Ω	=	a
☒	=	s
γ	=	r
er	=	age
≡	=	you
⊖	=	h
⌘	=	sh
☾	=	sky
↗	=	fire
Ω	=	e
☺	=	smile

*Related Outcome:* Students will explore the use of early alphabet systems and devise their own primitive system to be used as a means of written language.

*Creative Thinking Skills:* Applied Imagination, Fluency, Elaboration

*Subject Areas:* Society & Environment/HSIE - Time, Community Change, English - Text Strategies.

## Task 8: Alien Communication

**Materials:** Space and Astronomy resource book, Technology and Communication resource book, library books, Internet access (optional), pen, paper.

**Setting the Scene:** Research the work of SETI by having a look around their website: [www.seti.org](http://www.seti.org)



**Task 1:** Imagine that you are the Chief Researcher at SETI and a signal has just been detected in a galaxy far, far away.

**Draw up a proposal:** Write down what you think should occur now that a signal has been detected. Your proposal will need to be presented to the United Nations before any action or further communication can occur. In your proposal outline how the signal was detected and where you think it is coming from.

**Task 2:** Draft out a script of what you will attempt to communicate to this extraterrestrial life form. Describe how the communication will occur, bearing in mind that the aliens will not speak English and may not even be able to talk at all!

*Related Outcome:* Students will explore different communication forms, including radio signals, non-verbal communication and extraterrestrial communication.

*Creative Thinking Skills:* Brainstorming, Flexibility, Imagination, Elaboration.

*Subject Areas:* Science - Earth & Beyond, Technology.

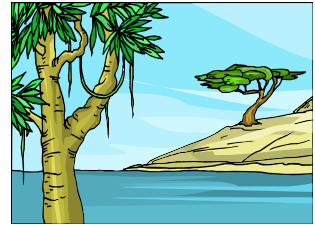
## Task 19: Survivor!

**Materials:** Communication & Technology resource book, paper, pen, your brain.

**The Scene:** You were travelling via boat around the Pacific Islands when a storm occurred. Your small boat lost radio communication and capsized. You managed to grab a surfboard and floated to the shores of a desert island. You have no idea where you are and your watch was damaged in the water so you are unable to tell in what direction you drifted. Evidently, you have been stranded on a desert island by yourself! There are hundreds of islands visible and you are fearful that rescuers won't know which one to search.

**Scenario 1:** You have been marooned on the island for two days. Describe how you will communicate your whereabouts to possible rescue teams.

**Scenario 2:** Two months have passed. Your efforts to attract attention have failed, however you have survived on fish and tropical fruits. Rescuers have assumed you have perished. You have come across an old shed in your travels that is filled with all kinds of junk. It looks like the shed is an old research base that hasn't been used in over 50 years. Describe what you find in there and explain how you will use it to attempt communication with the outside world.



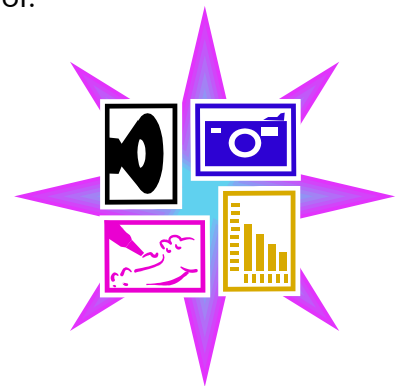
Related Outcome: Students will problem solve a situation, view the problem from a number of perspectives.  
Creative Thinking Skills: Imagination, Flexibility, Problem Solvers, Fluency, Risk Taking.  
Subject Areas: English - Writing, Society & Environment - Resources; Place & Space, Science, Technology.

## Task 20: What's the News?

**Materials:** Communication & Technology resource book, paper, pen, A3 paper, coloured markers.

**Task:** The newspaper has been a primary source of news for over three centuries. Brainstorm the various media platforms that we receive news from and find some examples. Include every single form of news that you can think of.

- Devise a multimedia package that incorporates ALL of the news media forms that you have listed.
- Explain in detail how your multimedia news system will operate and highlight its benefits for the modern world.
- Think of a catchy name for your product and discuss how it should be marketed.
- Design the graphics for the product – if it is a CD you can make an “actual size” graphic for the cover.  
If it comes in a box or file draw an appropriate design.



Related Outcome: a) Students examine the features of newspapers and their role in today's society; b) Students will brainstorm and then design a complete multimedia package that will utilise the news technology of today's world.

Creative Thinking Skills: Curiosity, Imagination, Risk Taking.

Subject Areas: English - Reading, Society & Environment - Time, Continuity & Change, Technology, The Arts.

# Activity Checklist

Photocopy this sheet onto A3 paper and display in learning centre. Students check off the sheets as they complete them.

Student																									
<b>Activity Name</b>																									
T1: Communication All Around																									
T2: Interesting Inventors																									
T3: Technology Time Capsule																									
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