Aims
1. To record personal events in a chronological order.

2. To write in the 1st person.

Resources
❖ weblink: http://www.kidsonthenet.com/adventureisland

activity sheets:
• Writing a diary

Books;
• Kensuke's Kingdom
• Various published diaries, both factual and fictional (Ann Franke, Adrian Mole, etc)

Introduction
This activity asks the children to consider how they would make a record of their life if they were stranded alone on an island by writing in a diary.

Activities and points for discussion

❖ Read through chapter three – Ship's log - from Michael Morpurgo's Kensuke's Kingdom. How is the text set out? Discuss the use of a date entry for the title of each section. Why is this useful? Should a diary remain *chronological*? Discuss.

❖ How is a diary written? Is it written in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd person? How can you tell? Make a list of all the *pronouns* that show evidence of this.

❖ Examine the language within the diary. Why does the writer avoid using *adjectives* in the entries? How would the inclusion of adjectives alter the diary? What would it read more like?

❖ Who does the writer refer to in the dairy – people that are known or strangers and made up characters?

❖ How does the diary record events, feelings, emotions and thoughts in each entry. Does the writer mix them all up, or keep them separate? How are they separated?

❖ Discuss what you might write in a school diary, and what you might write in a diary at home. Why would they be different? Which diary would you use to write your true emotions down?

Follow Up

❖ Keep a diary during the adventure Island project recording the work that you and your class do while you create your own island. Record your thoughts and feelings as well as the events that take place.
❖ Read published diaries from famous people and record the type of information that they wrote about. How did they feel at the time, how can you tell?
❖ Create a 'digital diary', or a blog for your class or school.