

## alien

'alien' was a new word at **Starters** level in 2018.

### You might like to:

- begin by asking learners if they believe aliens exist and if they have ever visited Earth. How did they travel here? Do this in their first language.
- ask what is the difference between an alien and a monster? Both are Starters words. What are learners' opinions? Do this in L1, too.
- ask *What does an alien look like?* Learners draw an alien. Teach / review the Starters body vocabulary: *arm, ear, eye, face, foot/feet, hair, hand, head, leg, mouth, nose* then ask *How many .... does your alien have?*
- write on the board *My alien is .....*. Learners suggest adjectives (colours, size or states from the Starters wordlist e.g. *blue, green, angry, big, cool, fantastic, funny, good, happy, nice, old, sad, scary, short, silly, ugly, young*).
- ask pairs to invent a short Q/A interview with the alien. You could supply the questions on the board, e.g. *What's your name? How old are you? What do you like doing/eating?* Learners write the conversation.



## Alice

'Alice' was a new name at **Starters** in 2018, too.

### Teaching notes - you might like to:

- check how to spell and pronounce 'Alice'. Firstly, you could say that 'c' followed by 'e' in English nearly always sounds like 's', e.g. *ice cream, face, mice, nice, sentence*. But point out that the 'i' in Alice is short so Alice sounds like *Miss* and *this*. Learners may see or hear 'Alice' in the YLE Starters tests so they should be able to spell it correctly.
- talk about the famous story *Alice in Wonderland*. Have learners read the book in their own language or seen the film? Did they like it? Review all the Starters names that begin with A and their possessive forms: *Alice, Alex, Ann* and *Anna*. Note that the possessive 's' here sounds like 'z'.
- ask learners for words that you might find in a story called *Alice and the Alien*. Then, with learners' suggestions, make up the story in open class.
- write *Alice and the angry aliens* on the board. Small groups make as many 3+ letter words from the letters, using each letter only once, e.g. *rice, candy, and, nice, tall, hall, chair/s, tree/s, three, eight, ten, ear, eye/s, hair, leg/s, hand/s, head/s, tail/s, shirt, hat/s, gray/grey, green, red, girl/s, then, there, line/s, end/s, sand, eat/s, sing, stand, year/s* (all Starters words).
- teach *be scared of* (*scary* is on the Starters wordlist) and *whale* and *snail*, then chant the poem. Add gestures to make this more fun and memorable.

Alice's alien lives in tall trees.

And Alice's alien is scared of bees.

But Alice's alien likes eating green peas!

Alice's alien has two very long tails.

And Alice's alien can talk to whales!

But Alice's alien likes eating small snails! Ugh!