When the play reading has been completed, divide pupils into pairs or groups of 4. Tell them they are going to produce a board game based on events in the play, or the Robin Hood legends generally. Use the resource *Stylistic Conventions of Instructions* to discuss the stylistic conventions of instructions.

Pupils should brainstorm ideas for the game and report back after 10 minutes. These ideas should be covered as part of their ‘brief’:

- the layout
- the object of the game i.e. how do you win
- the method of play e.g. with a dice, following a trail, or by picking cards with instructions
- what sort of counters are used
- what sort of scoring device, if any, is needed
- age of players
- amount of time needed to play the game successfully

Discourage ideas that need question and answer cards- they would need hundreds, and are unlikely to be able to produce satisfactory results!

Give time as appropriate to work on ideas- this could give an opportunity for ICT skills. The final outcome depends on the class and the time available, but a finished, playable product should be possible in two lessons with homework in between.
Stylistic Conventions of Instructions

Includes:
- Directions
- Rules for playing games
- Recipes
- ‘How to’ manuals

Conventions:
- Written as imperatives or commands
  e.g. *Set up the playing board*…
- Present tense
- Impersonal
  e.g. *The first player throws a dice*…
- May be active (as above) or passive
  e.g. *The order of play is decided by*…
- Side headings may be used
- Short sentences to cover each part of the instruction
- Connectives linked to time
  e.g. *first… next… after*…
- May include conditional phrases
  e.g. *if… then*…
- Punctuation limited to full stops and commas
Legends of Robin Hood

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LEGEND
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SHERWOOD FOREST
MAID MARIAN
FRIAR TUCK

ROBIN HOOD
ROB THE RICH
FEED THE POOR
LITTLE JOHN
NOTTINGHAM