

					
<p>Daniel Radcliffe is an English actor. He is the face of Harry Potter. On 23 July 1989, Daniel Radcliffe comes into the world. His birthplace is West London, England.</p>	<p>J.K.Rowling or Joanne Rowling is a British novelist. She is the author of <i>Harry Potter</i>. Rowling was born on 31 July 1965 in Yate, Gloucestershire, England.</p>	<p>David Heyman is an English filmmaker. He produced the Harry Potter film series. He was born on 26 July 1961 in London, England.</p>	<p>Rupert Grint is an English actor. He played Harry Potter's friend, Ron Weasley. Grint was cast as Ron Weasley at the age of 11. He was born on 24 August 1988 in Harlow, Essex, England.</p>	<p>Chris Joseph Columbus is an American film director, producer and screenwriter. He directed the first two films about Harry Potter and produced the third. He was born on September 10, 1958 in Spangler, Pennsylvania, U.S.</p>	<p>Jamie Lee Curtis is an American actress and author. She was born on November 22, 1958 in Santa Monica, California, U.S. She was the mother of <i>David Copperfield</i> in the film. She had a book about Harry Potter on the film set.</p>
					
<p>Alan Radcliffe is Daniel Radcliffe's father. He is a literary agent. He works with writers in London.</p>	<p>Steve Kloves is an American screenwriter. He wrote adaptations for the Harry Potter film series. He was born on March 18, 1960 in Austin, Texas.</p>	<p>Emma Watson is an English actress and model. She starred in all eight <i>Harry Potter</i> films. She was cast as Hermione at the age of nine. She was born on 15 April 1990 in Paris, France.</p>	<p>Marcia Jeannine Gresham is Daniel Radcliffe's mother. She is a casting agent. She was born in South Africa and raised in Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. She lives in London.</p>	<p>Margaret Smith is a British film, stage and television actress. She has appeared in the Harry Potter film series. Margaret Smith was born on 28 December 1934 in Ilford, Essex, England.</p>	<p>Geoffrey Rush (born 6 July 1951) is an Australian actor and film producer. He was born on 6 July 1951 in Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia. Rush played with Daniel Radcliffe in the film <i>The Tailor of Panama</i> in 2001. He starred in the film Pirates of the Caribbean, as Captain Hector Barbossa.</p>

A Game of Dominoes

Read the text about Daniel Radcliff and then play the game.

Students search the Internet for pictures of the actors mentioned in this section of the book. They print them, make copies and then make **a game of dominoes** (see *instructions*). The class plays the game, with an extra rule: students must say something about the person/s in the picture before they can use a domino block.

Instructions:

Each picture is photocopied several times and students make the dominoes by sticking two different pictures on pieces of paper so that each **domino** has two pictures on it.

You can also print ready-made domino blocks (see page 1), stick them on the carton and cut.

You need 6 domino blocks for each player and the domino bank in the center of the table.

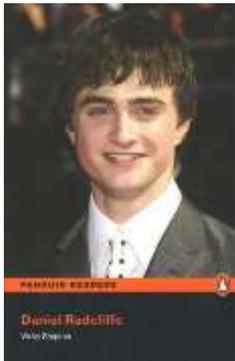
Dominoes are distributed among players and one is placed on the table.

In turns, players place one of their dominoes next to the ones on the table.

A domino can be placed next to another only when it has the same picture on it.

The first player to run out dominoes wins.

Penguin Readers: Daniel Radcliffe Level 1 Beginner / British English



It is a dark November evening in 2001 and Dan Radcliffe is very nervous. He is only twelve, but he is famous. The first Harry Potter film, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, is at the cinema for the first time. 10,000 people are waiting in the street, near the cinema in London. They all want to see the actors; they all want to see Dan.

In the dark cinema, the film starts. Dan watches – and there he is! That night, the people in the cinema see the new face of the boy with the glasses. After that, for many people, Daniel Radcliffe – Dan to his friends and family – is Harry Potter.

J.K. Rowling's books are very famous, and Daniel Radcliffe is the face of Harry Potter. But who is the young actor? And is there a life for him after the films?

Life Before Harry Potter

Today, people in many countries know the young film actor's name and face. But how did he start? Did he always want to be an actor? And what did he do before Harry Potter?

On 23 July 1989, Daniel Radcliffe comes into the world. His mother and father live in London. His father works with writers, and his mother works with actors. She knows about the lives of child actors; sometimes their lives can be very difficult. Dan's mother and father don't want a child actor in the house; they want a normal, happy child. Daniel *is* normal. He has a normal life at school. One year he is in a school play. He plays the part of an animal!



Because of their jobs, Dan's mother and father know a lot of people in film and television. One of them wants to make a television film of Charles Dickens's famous book *Oliver Twist* and he has an important question for the Radcliffe family. Does Dan want to act in the film? His mother and father say no. But then a family friend comes to the Radcliffes. Does Dan want to be in a BBC television series of Dickens's book *David Copperfield*?

This time, Dan's mother and father say yes. Dan goes and talks to the director of the series. Then he has an audition for the part. He has five auditions, and then...the answer is yes! On television, Dan is the new David Copperfield.

This is Dan's first job, and he is only ten at the time. He is nervous on the first day because actors are in the series. One of them is Maggie Smith. Later, Dan is going to work with her again in the Harry Potter films; she plays the teacher Minerva McGonagall.

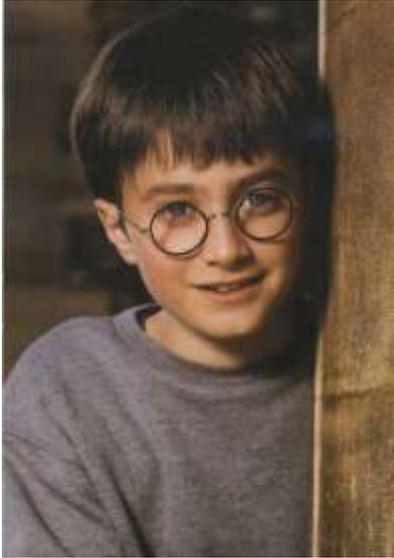
Young Daniel in David Copperfield

The first part of *David Copperfield* is on television in Britain on 25 December 2000 – Christmas Day. People love it, and they love the young actor with the big blue eyes.

After *David Copperfield*, Dan works on a Hollywood film, *The Tailor of Panama*. Again, he works with very famous actors. American Jamie Lee Curtis and Australian Geoffrey Rush are his mother and father in the film. Jamie has a book with her on the film set. It is a children's book about a young wizard ... Harry Potter. In her book, writer J.K. Rowling says, 'Harry has a thin face ... black hair and green eyes.'

Dan's eyes are blue, not green. But, for Jamie, young Dan is the right actor for the job in a Harry Potter film. She talks about this to Dan's mother.

The Young Wizard



In 1997, J.K. Rowling's first book, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, arrives in the book shops. Readers love this story of a young wizard's first year at Hogwarts School. Now people in many countries know about Harry Potter.

One of these people is film maker David Heyman. David is British, but at this time he is working with people in Los Angeles. He wants to make a film of J.K. Rowling's book and he starts to talk to writers and directors.

Readers wait for book two in the series, and *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* arrives in 1998. Children love this book – and book three, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*.

Daniel in his Harry Potter glasses

Their mothers and fathers love the stories, too; 40% of J.K. Rowling's readers are not children. For the first time, many children like putting on their glasses because of Harry Potter!

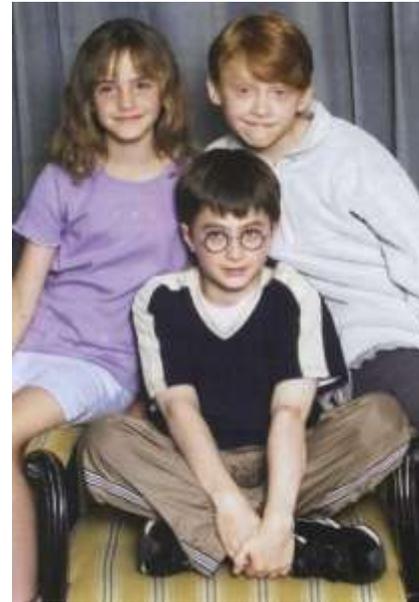
In Los Angeles, David Heyman has a writer, Steve Kloves, and a director, Chris Columbus. There is a lot of money for the film of the first Harry Potter book ... but no Harry Potter.

The film makers don't want a famous actor. They want a 'new face', and they want a British child. A lot of young actors have auditions for the part, but the film makers can't find the right child.

Then, one night, Heyman and Kloves go to a play in London. There is a family behind them – the Radcliffes, with their son, Daniel. Columbus and Kloves know Dan's father and they start to talk to him about Harry Potter film.

The day after that, Dan visits the film set. Then he has an audition for the part of Harry Potter. Dan is very nervous, but he goes for two auditions after this. Then they telephone him – Dan has the job. He is the new Harry Potter! He is very happy and doesn't sleep well that night.

Now a very important person watches a short film of Dan's acting – writer J.K. Rowling. She is happy with the young actor in the part. After that, Dan reads her books again. He wants to understand Harry very well.



Emma, Daniel and Rupert

They start to film in September 2000, in England. On the first day, there are a lot of actors and workers on the set and Dan is very nervous. But he isn't the only young actor there.

Rupert Grint is playing Harry Potter's friend, Ron Weasley. Rupert is eleven, too. Emma Watson – Harry's clever friend Hermione Granger in the story – is only ten. This is Rupert and Emma's first film. The three children are quickly good friends.

Film makers often work very long days. But child actors can't work all day because they have school work. For 130 days, the young actors work on the set of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* and do their school work, too. In that time, Dan doesn't often see his old school friends on weekdays.

But he likes his new friends, Rupert and Emma, and the three young actors have a good time.

Dan likes acting with the special effects. He likes the part of the film with the game of Quidditch. But life on a film set isn't always interesting for actors. For a lot of time, they sit and wait. Sometimes Dan listens to music and sometimes he watches films at these times. He likes playing jokes on the set, too. Sometimes Rupert and Emma play jokes on him.

