

Monday 15th June 2020

Reading

WALT Understand how humour is used as a literary device

For this week's reading assignment we are going to be using resources from the World Book Day 2020 website. In particular, the section on 'Telling Funny Stories' by the author Jeff Kinney, best known for the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series.

To begin, click on the following link to watch a video:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/online-masterclasses/telling-funny-stories/>



**TELLING FUNNY STORIES**  
with **JEFF KINNEY**

DIARY of a Wimpy Kid THE MELTDOWN



**TELLING FUNNY STORIES**  
Telling Funny Stories with Jeff Kinney

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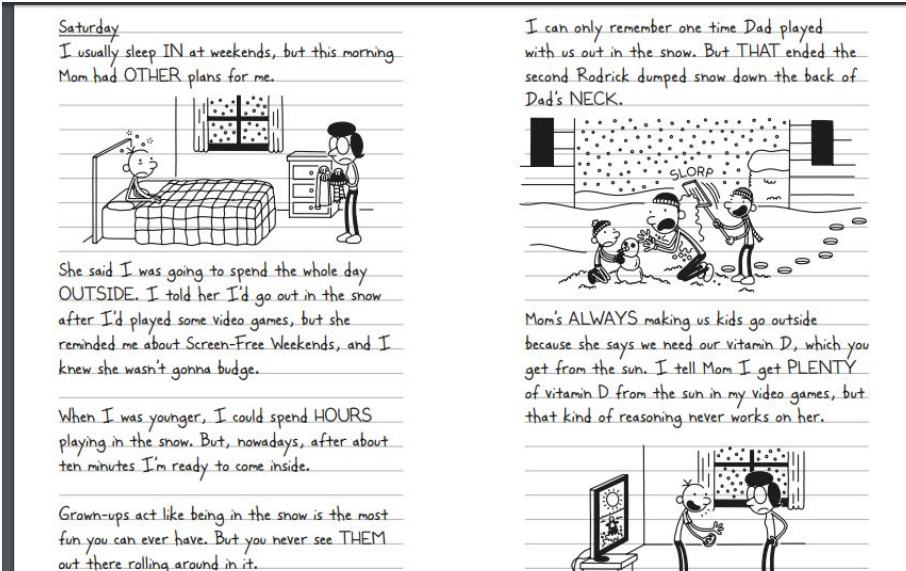
WORLD BOOK DAY  
AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR MASTERCLASSES

- ★ INSPIRING FILMS
- ★ CREATIVE RESOURCES
- ★ SECRET WRITING TIPS

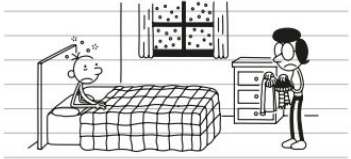
FOR ASPIRING AUTHORS & ILLUSTRATORS OF ALL AGES  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Then click on the following link to read a story extract:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/06-Telling-Funny-Stories-Extract.pdf>



Saturday  
I usually sleep IN at weekends, but this morning Mom had OTHER plans for me.




She said I was going to spend the whole day OUTSIDE. I told her I'd go out in the snow after I'd played some video games, but she reminded me about Screen-Free Weekends, and I knew she wasn't gonna budge.


When I was younger, I could spend HOURS playing in the snow. But, nowadays, after about ten minutes I'm ready to come inside.

Grown-ups act like being in the snow is the most fun you can ever have. But you never see THEM out there rolling around in it.

I can only remember one time Dad played with us out in the snow. But THAT ended the second Rodrick dumped snow down the back of Dad's NECK.



Mom's ALWAYS making us kids go outside because she says we need our vitamin D, which you get from the sun. I tell Mom I get PLENTY of vitamin D from the sun in my video games, but that kind of reasoning never works on her.



**Having watched the video and read the extract, try answering the following questions:**

1. Do you think the series title *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* is a funny title? Why?
2. What is effective about using the form of a diary to document Greg's adventures? Do you like this format? Why? How does it change the experience of reading?
3. Jeff Kinney often uses words made up of capital letters in his writing. Can you find any examples of this in the extract? What is the effect of using capital letters? What do they show?
4. Can you find an example of onomatopoeia in the extract? Why is this an effective technique for creating comedy?
5. How does Jeff Kinney present the relationship between Greg and his parents in the extract from *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown*? Why is this funny?
6. How do the illustrations complement the text? For example, in the extract from *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown*, why is it funny when Greg says: 'Manny was already in the front yard making snowmen, or WHATEVER you'd call those things'?