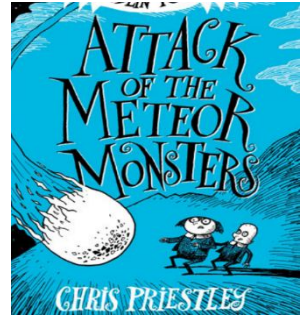


Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

Guided reading – WALT - retrieve and infer to answer comprehension questions

WALT use a dictionary to write the definition of unknown words



**Continue to read the text – Have a peek at Wednesday’s learning if you need a quick reminder of the story so far.**



Mildew and Sponge returned to school, hurriedly changed out of their drizzle-soaked shorts and vests and into their school uniforms before scuttling along to the refectory for breakfast, eager to reassure the others they were safe.

When they arrived, however, the rest of the boys gave every impression of not being in the least concerned about them. ‘It’s all right!’ announced Mildew. ‘Do not be alarmed. Worry not. We’re completely fine. I trust we haven’t spoiled your breakfast.’ The boys stared at them for a moment and then, without response, returned to their previous conversations. Soon the room was filled again with chatter and clatter. Mildew and Sponge stared at each other for a moment before Mildew tried again. ‘I said,’ repeated Mildew, more loudly this time, ‘worry not. Sponge and I are unharmed.’ ‘Why earth would we worry about you?’ said Kenningworth without even looking up. ‘Did you not see it?’ cried Mildew. ‘See what?’ said



on

Kenningworth disinterestedly. ‘The meteor!’ said Mildew. This did at least grab the attention of some of the boys, who turned to face him, although many of them wore expressions of doubt rather than interest. ‘Did you say meteor?’ said Furthermore. ‘What nonsense is this?’ said Kenningworth. ‘It is not any kind of nonsense,’ said Mildew, pushing out his chest. ‘We could have been killed. Tell them, Sponge.’ ‘We could have been killed,’ confirmed Sponge.



‘And yet you appear to be utterly unscathed,’ said Kenningworth, flaring his nostrils. ‘No trace of scathing at all. I’ve never seen two

people less scathed. I wonder –’ ‘Oh, be quiet, Kenningworth,’ said Mildew. ‘What makes you think it was a meteor?’ said Furthermore. ‘Well, it fell out of the sky in a ball of fire,’ Mildew replied. ‘What else could it be?’ ‘Cheese?’ said Hipflask. ‘Cheese?’ said Mildew. ‘Are you suggesting a huge ball of flaming cheese slammed into the top of Pug’s Peak?’ ‘My mother says cheese can make you see all kinds of things,’ said Hipflask. ‘Especially French cheese.’ Kenningworth chuckled. ‘I’m with Hipflask’s mother,’ he said. ‘You’re seeing things.’ ‘It was not French cheese and we

were not seeing things,' said Mildew firmly. 'It came hurtling out of the sky and crashed into Pug's Peak. There was a burning glow where it landed.' 'And there were things moving about,' said Sponge

Here Sponge demonstrated the aforementioned moving about by a wiggling of his fingers. 'Things moving about?' said Kenningworth, peering at the wiggling fingers.

'Although they were probably just sheep,' said Mildew, frowning at Sponge. 'Ignore the sheep.' 'They didn't look like sheep to me,' said Sponge. Kenningworth heaved a sigh, got up and looked out of the window towards Pug's Peak. 'Well, I can't see any sign of a glow,' he said, 'or anything else for that matter.' The others joined him and, after a while, they turned with equal scepticism towards Mildew and Sponge. 'Well, the sun has come up a bit more than before,' said Mildew. 'You can't see the glow now.' 'Pah!' exclaimed Kenningworth.

To Mildew and Sponge's dismay, the boys returned to their seats and to their chatter as though nothing had occurred and as though Mildew and Sponge were not there at all. 'I wonder how long it would have taken them to notice had we never returned,' said Sponge forlornly. 'Never mind them,' said Mildew as they collected their bowls of lumpen porridge from Mrs Glump and sat down together at a different table. 'They don't believe us, Mildew,' said Sponge, gasping with the effort of forcing his spoon into the grey and grimly resistant porridge. 'We'll show them, Sponge,' said Mildew. 'How?' 'I don't know at the moment,' said Mildew. 'But we'll show them, mark my words. It might help matters if you didn't keep going on about sheep. It confuses things.' 'I'm not going on about sheep. I don't even think they were sheep. It's you who –' 'Do you see?' said Mildew. 'Even you're confused.'

**Now answer the questions:**

1. Find the definition of these words? – scathe, forlorn, scepticism
2. What time of day is it when Mildew and Sponge return to school?
3. Are Mildew and Sponge popular boys? Use evidence in the text to support your answer.

4. The author describes their breakfast as –

*'grey and grimly resistant porridge?'*

How does this description help the reader to imagine the porridge?

**Challenge question:**

5. Do the boys believe Mildew and Sponge's story? How do you know?  
Use P.E.E to give a detailed answer.