

The Messy Magpie: Activity Plan 1

Reading Skill:

1e. Predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far.

I can predict what a story might be about.

Vocabulary and Key Phrases:

Fiction, magpie, colourful, shiny, Morris, nest, gleam, gift, present, wood, treasures, collection, predict.

Prior Learning: New text.

Reading Task: Look at the front cover, blurb and read to the end of p. 10 (...and grew!).

Reading Questions

Front Cover

What kind of book do you think this is? (Fiction/non-fiction.) How do you know?

Look at the title and the front cover. Can you predict what this book is going to be about?

Blurb

Who is the main character in the book?

'But are they the generous gifts that Morris first thought?' What do you think the answer to the question is? Can you predict what the problem might be in this story?

Text

p.1 What are magpies known for doing?

p.2 Why does Morris take objects home to his nest?

p.3 Can you predict what Morris will do with the can that is thrown from the car?

p.4 What does the word 'manoeuvre' mean?

p.4 Do you think this will be the only object that Morris will collect? Explain why you think this.

p.5 What do you think Morris will do after the humans have left? Explain why you think this.

p.6 What are the 'shimmering treasures' that are mentioned?

p.7 Why does Morris not put all of the objects he collects into his nest?

p.9-10 Think about the story so far and what you have read in the blurb. Predict what will happen to the woods where Morris lives.

Deeper Reading:

From reading the blurb and what you have read so far, what do you think the message of this story will be?

Related Activities

Punctuation and Grammar: Children complete the [Sequence the Sentences Activity Sheet](#).

Challenge! Children write a sentence to say what they think will happen next in the story.

Phonics: Children complete [The /ee/ Sound Activity Sheet](#).

Challenge! Children write a list of words where the /ee/ sound is written in different ways.

Comprehension: Children complete the [Show Your Understanding Activity Sheet](#).

Challenge! Children imagine that they are a hedgehog who lives in the woods with Morris. They write down what he might say to Morris about what is happening to the woods.

Vocabulary: Children complete the [Words and Meanings Activity Sheet](#).

Challenge! Children write a sentence using two or more words from the word bank, putting them in one sentence.

Describe: Children complete the [What Can You See? Activity Sheet](#). They will need access to the book, or provide them with the [What Can You See? Pages 9 and 10](#) or [What Can You See? Page 5 Print-Outs](#).

Challenge! Children add interesting adjectives to make their sentences more descriptive.

Research: Children read the [Magpie Fact Sheet](#) and then complete the [True or False Activity Sheet](#).

Challenge! Children write a list of questions about magpies, which they would like to know the answers to.

