

Reading Questions: Prompt Sheet

George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl

Reading Questions and Answers

Who is on the front cover? What are they doing?

- George is on the cover, stirring the medicine.

What clues does the front cover give us about what the book is going to be about?

- The boy on the front cover is stirring a large pot of something and he is smiling. There are lots of different containers with potions that are going into the pot, so it looks like he is making something.

Who is the story going to be about? How do you know?

- Example answer: This story is going to be about George and his grandma. He is making something which I assume is a medicine. I can see clues from the picture of the front cover and from reading the blurb.

p.1 Where is the story set?

- The story is set on and around a farm where George lives with his family.

What part of the first chapter describes the setting?

Why did the author choose this setting?

- At the bottom of p.1 there is a description of the setting. Roald Dahl chose this setting as it means there is nothing else for George to do and he is at home, so can make the medicine.

Which characters were you introduced to in the blurb?

- In the blurb we were introduced to the characters of George and Grandma.

What do you think might happen in the story?

- Example answer: The story is obviously centred around a boy called George making medicine for his horrible grandma. She seems mean and revolting. We know that George decides to make her some of his own medicine. I hope that this means she will either be turned into a nice grandma, or that she will be punished for her unpleasant behaviour towards George.

Have you read any other books by this author?

- Example answer: I have read many books by this author and I always enjoy it when the main character (usually a child) gets their revenge on the mean adults in their story.

Think about the author's other stories. Are there any familiar themes/characters/settings to the story we are reading? How did the story end? How might this story end?

- Example answer: Usually the child in this author's stories wins over the adults. I remember reading about Matilda and she gets amazing revenge on Miss Trunchbull, a horrible head teacher who makes life unpleasant for little children.

Deeper Reading

Who is telling this story?

- Example answer: The narrator is telling this story, so we could describe this as Roald Dahl. The story is told from George's perspective though.

What impression does author give us about Grandma?

- Example answer: The author gives us the impression that Grandma is deeply unpleasant and is both deliberately mean and strange. He compares her to other grandmothers to highlight quite how unpleasant she is.

