The Hodgeheg by Dick King-Smith

Reading Questions and Answers

How did the family celebrate Max's return at the beginning of Chapter 7?

• The family celebrated by having a feast of snails.

What advice did their neighbour give Max about what time of day to go out? Why did he suggest this?

• Max's neighbour (Uncle B) advised him to go out in the daytime so the humans could see the hedgehogs more clearly to reduce the risk of them getting knocked over. He also said that he had seen humans who help people to cross roads in the daylight.

Why was Max so excited at the beginning of Chapter 8?

• Max was excited because he felt he might be successful in his quest that day and finally find a place to cross the road safely.

What was 'the huge building where the small humans went' called? (p.74)

• The huge building where the small humans went was a school.

Describe how the lollipop lady felt on p.82-84. How does the author show her feelings?

• Example answer: The lollipop lady was astounded to see a group of hedgehogs lining up to cross the road. The author says that 'she never forgot the sight' and that the people who witnessed the event were 'astonished'.

Look at p.86. Describe how the author ends the story. Did you like the way the story ended?

• Example answer: The story ends in the future where another mother hedgehog is telling the legendary story of Max and how he crossed the road safely with his family. I liked how the story ended because it showed that Max had become a hero to other hedgehogs.

Deeper Reading

Which part of the story did you find the most interesting or exciting? Can you explain why?

• Example answer: I found the part of the story where Max runs in front of the milk float the most exciting because the author builds up the tension and you weren't sure if he had survived.

Who would you recommend this book to? Why?

• Example answer: I would recommend this book to people in Year 3 who like animals because it gives you lots of information about hedgehogs' lives.

Were your predictions about the book correct? Justify your answers with evidence.

• Example answer: My predictions were correct and

I knew the hedgehog family would end up crossing safely. I was certain that the author wouldn't let Max come to any harm.

Do you think Max and Uncle B have similar characters? Why/why not?

• Example answer: I think Max and Uncle B are similar because they are both determined characters who like to roam the streets going on adventures.

What do you think is the most important message within this book?

• Example answer: I think the important message in this book is to never give up. You should always keep working hard to get what you want and you will get there eventually.