

Reading Questions: Prompt Sheet

James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl

Reading Questions and Answers

What clues does the front cover give us about the story?

- Example answer: On the front cover is a picture of a giant peach on the very top of a tall building. There is also a grasshopper talking to a boy.

Who has written this book? Who is the illustrator?

- Example answer: The book was written by Roald Dahl and was illustrated by Quentin Blake.

Blurb. Where do you think the most wonderful and marvellous place might be?

- Example answer: I think the wonderful and marvellous place might be America because it looks like a building from America.

Who is this story about? Can you describe the life of this character?

- Example answer: The story is about a little boy called James. James has a horrible life as his two aunts, who he lives with, are cruel towards him.

p. 4 How is Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker's garden described?

- Example answer: The garden is described as covering the whole of the top of the hill. It is large and desolate with an ancient peach tree in it.

p.4 How does the author make the reader feel in the final paragraph of chapter 1?

- Example answer: The author makes the reader empathise for James; he is described as sad and wistful and it makes the reader also feel like this.

p.5 How are Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker different?

- Example answer: The two aunts are different in the way they look. Aunt Sponge is fat and has a low, deep voice while Aunt Spiker is very slim with a screechy voice.

Deeper Reading

Are Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker only horrible towards James? What are they like to others? What evidence in the chapters supports your answer?

- Example answers: Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker seem to be awful to everyone, even each other at times. The song on page 7 is about the things they say to each other and they are quite mean to each other.

