

James and the Giant Peach: Activity Plan 1 1

Reading Skill:

2g. Identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases.

I can explain how words and phrases can add meaning to a text.

Vocabulary and Key Phrases:

Cramped, glistening, tremendously tall, pandemonium, smithereens, plummeted, skyscrapers, squelch, pinnacle.

Prior Learning: Children will have read up to Chapter 31.

Reading Task: Read Chapters 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36.

Reading Questions

p.126 Look for examples of similes; how does their use add meaning to the description?

p.126 What words are used to describe the city? What sort of image do they create?

p.127 Why does the ladybird say, "Ask James"?

p.127 What words describe the atmosphere below the peach?

p.127 Look for examples of metaphors; how does their use add meaning to the description?

p.131 Why does the author repeatedly use the verb 'cried'?

p.131-132 How does the author create an atmosphere of fear in these pages?

Deeper Reading:

What clues are there in these chapters that show that the setting has changed to America?

Related Activities

Punctuation and Grammar: Children complete the [Apostrophes English Activity Sheet](#).

Challenge! Children write five sentences to show plural possession correctly.

Vocabulary: Children investigate further examples of compound nouns, e.g. skyscraper, dragonfly.

Challenge! Children create new examples of compound nouns.

Comprehension: What cities and states in America are mentioned in these chapters? Can you locate them on the [USA Map Activity Sheet](#)?

Challenge! Children research the cities and states mentioned and find out further information about each one.

Research: Children work out how quickly the peach must have been travelling to cross the Atlantic Ocean in one night.

Challenge! Children work out how this compares to other methods of travel.

Imagine: Children imagine they are an American citizen witnessing the arrival of the peach. They hot-seat how they are feeling and what they think they are seeing.

Challenge! Using hot-seating, the children question the witnesses about the events.

Draw: Children use the illustration on p.128 and use perspective to draw a similar view of the peach from the ground.

Challenge! Children think about why the illustrator has chosen to draw this image.