



Mission: Perilous Portal

Book band: Lime

When Mum and Shinoy investigate a mysterious light in the loft, they find themselves in the middle of a Chaos Crew mission. The Crew are investigating a new energy supply being created by S.N.A.I.R. They overcome various obstacles to reach S.N.A.I.R.'s lair and manage to get hold of the energy source. Eventually, they return to Shinoy's house and Dad requisitions the energy pack – as it looks remarkably like AA batteries – for the remote control.

Skills focus

- 1a Draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts
- 1b Identify / explain key aspects of fiction and non-fiction texts, such as characters, events, titles and information
- 1d Make inferences from texts
- 1g Read words accurately and fluently

Guided reading session

You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *Mission: Perilous Portal*

Tune in

Ask children to explore the front cover of the book.

Discuss any other Shinoy and the Chaos Crew books that they have read.

Ask: What can you tell me about the Chaos Crew?

Explore children's understanding of a portal.

Ask: Why do you think a portal might be perilous?

Ask them to read the speech bubbles on the back cover.

Ask: What do you think might happen in this story?

Focus on the fact that this is a graphic novel.

Ask: What do you know about graphic novels?

Ask children to turn to page 2.

Read the text at the top of the page and then give children time to explore the characters.

Ask: What can you tell me about the different members of the Chaos Crew?

Ask children to look at page 3.

Ask: In which order should we read the panels and the speech bubbles? (*left to right, top to bottom*)

Read the text in the blue box at the top of the page.

Ask: What information is this giving us? (*the setting of the story*)

Read page 3 using different voices for the characters.

Ask the following questions:

- Were you able to read any information from the illustrations that you weren't told in the text?
- Where do you think Dad is?

Establish that when reading graphic novels, it is important to get clues from the illustrations in order to make the most sense of the story.

Read pages 4 and 5, asking children to read the illustrations as you read the text.

Ask the following questions:

- What has happened in this opening section of the story?
- Were you able to read any information from the illustrations that you weren't told in the text?
- What impression do you get of Dad from what Mum and Shinoy say?

Heads together

Ask children to work with their Reading Partners.

They can practise reading the speech bubbles on pages 6 to 8, each taking on the role of one of the characters.

As they read, move around the group asking children to 'turn up the volume' so that you can hear them.

Ask children to read pages 9 to 11 and to identify which members of the Chaos Crew have arrived.

Wrap up

Give children feedback on their reading.

Ask the following questions:

- What has happened in this section of the story?
- Which members of the Chaos Crew have arrived? (*Ember, Salama and Merit*)

Vocabulary boost session

You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *Mission: Perilous Portal*
- Flipchart or whiteboard
- A4 whiteboards and pens

Vocabulary table

Focus word	Child-friendly explanation	Example sentence	Tell me...
navigate	If you navigate somewhere, you find your way through it.	I could navigate my way through the maze at the castle we visited at half term.	Tell me a place that you could navigate.
detect	If you detect something, you notice it.	I could detect happiness in my grandma's face when I saw her.	Tell me about something that you could detect in someone's face.
gruesome	If you say something is gruesome, you mean that it is very unpleasant.	I think the smell of rotten eggs would be gruesome.	Tell me about a smell that you think would be gruesome.

Tune in

Ask the following questions:

- What can you tell me about graphic novels?
- What has happened so far in the story?

Remind children that it is important to get clues from the illustrations to make sense of the story.

Read pages 12 to 15, using different voices for each character.

As you read each focus word, briefly explain their meanings. You may wish to use the information in the Vocabulary table above to help you.

Ask the following questions:

- Which other member of the Chaos Crew has turned up? (*Lazlo*)
- What has happened in this section of the story?
- What were you able to read from the illustrations that you weren't told in the text?

On the flipchart or whiteboard, write up the focus words and the example sentences.

Ask children to read the words and sentences. As they do so, revisit the meanings of the focus words.

Heads together

Use the 'Tell me' prompts to develop children's understanding of the focus words.

As they respond, ask questions to deepen their understanding.

Wrap up

Challenge children to develop their own sentences that contain the focus words. They can write these on their whiteboards and hold them up so that you can check the accuracy.

Ask children to choose one of the focus words as their word of the week. Challenge them to use it as often as they can – both at home and at school.

Follow-up independent sessions

You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *Mission: Perilous Portal*
- Multiple copies of resource sheet: Book talk

Ask children to flick through pages 16 to 21 and to choose a character each. They can read pages 16 to 21 as a group, using clues from the illustrations for appropriate expressions.

Children can read pages 22 to 25 then answer these questions:

- What does Harry say about the Hagg Hounds? (*I don't like these fellows!*)
- What is Mum's problem when she is on the rope? (*She doesn't like heights.*)
- Whose phone does Shinoy use to phone home? (*Mum's*)
- What does Shinoy want Myra to do? (*press the Chaos Crew app on his phone*)

Children can read pages 26 to 29, using different voices for the characters. They can then use Resource sheet: Book talk to record their responses, then discuss the book.



Name: _____

Book talk

Title: _____

What I liked about the book

What I didn't like about the book

I have this question about the book

The book reminds me of
