



The Day of Treacherous Travel

Book band: Lime

Shinoy and his family are on a train when it is taken over by S.N.A.I.R. Shinoy calls on the Chaos Crew and Merit arrives to help. They battle their way to the driver's cab where they find S.N.A.I.R. has tied up the driver. Shinoy spots a device fitted to the dashboard and realises how S.N.A.I.R. is controlling the train. S.N.A.I.R. falls out of the train and Merit and Shinoy save the day.

Skills focus

- 1a Draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts
- 1c Identify and explain the sequence of events in texts
- 1d Make inferences from texts
- 1f Check reading makes sense

Guided reading session

You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *The Day of Treacherous Travel*

Tune in

Ask children to look at the front cover of the book and to read the title.

Ask the following questions:

- What do you think 'treacherous travel' might be?
- Have you read any other books in the Shinoy and the Chaos Crew series?
- What were they about?

Ask children to read the back cover blurb.

Ask the following questions:

- Where do you think the story is set?
- What do you think is going to happen in the story?

Read page 2 and check that children understand the concept behind the series.

Explain to children that you are going to read the first few pages of the story and that they are going to concentrate on understanding what is happening.

Read pages 3 to 5 aloud to the children.

Ask: What do you think is happening in the beginning of the story?

Explain that they are now going to try reading between the lines. Establish that authors do not always tell a reader everything, sometimes they show what is happening and the reader has to work it out.

Read pages 3 to 5 again.

Ask: How do you think the family is feeling about the day out?

Draw attention to Shinoy's daydreaming, Dad being asleep and Mum 'trying' to sound enthusiastic. Suggest that they might not really be looking forward to it.

Ask: How do you think Shinoy feels about pizza for lunch?

Draw attention to: 'Shinoy's tummy rumbled at the thought.'

Suggest that this means he would certainly like a pizza.

Explain that answering these last two questions involves reading between the lines.

Ask the following questions:

- What will be available when the buffet car opens? (*hot and cold beverages, sandwiches*)
- Did answering that question involve reading between the lines? (*No, the information is on the page.*)

Heads together

Ask children to read pages 6 to 9, concentrating on understanding what is happening.

As they read, move around the group, asking individual children to 'turn up the volume'.

Listen for evidence of intonation and expression that suggests they are understanding what they are reading.

Wrap up

Ask children to tell you what happened in the section they have just read.

Explain that you are going to ask some questions and that they will need to read between the lines to find the answers.

Ask the following questions:

- Why do you think the passengers glanced at their tickets in confusion?
- Why do you think the people on the platform were 'open-mouthed'?
- Why do you think the robotic voice says: 'leave your ... hopes behind'?
- Do you think the buffet car will still be opening?
- What do you think will happen next?

Support children if they are finding reading between the lines challenging.

Vocabulary boost session

You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *The Day of Treacherous Travel*

Vocabulary table

Focus word	Child-friendly explanation	Example sentence	Tell me...
clogging	If something is clogging a place, it is blocking it.	The traffic was clogging the narrow lanes.	Tell me about a place in school that could be clogged.
gormlessly	If you do something gormlessly, you do it in a stupid way.	The children stared gormlessly at the elephant walking past their school.	Tell me why you would look at someone gormlessly.
reluctantly	If you do something reluctantly, you don't really want to do it.	Class 5 reluctantly got back on the bus to go back to school.	Tell me about something you would do reluctantly.

Tune in

Ask children to tell you what happened in Chapter 1.

Remind them that Merit had appeared – but outside the train.

Explain that you are going to read Chapter 2 and they should concentrate on understanding what is happening.

Read pages 10 to 15, briefly explaining the meaning of the focus words as you read. Use the information in the Vocabulary table above to help you.

Ask children to summarise what has happened in Chapter 2. Listen carefully for any misconceptions.

Ask the following questions:

- Who were clogging the aisles? (*passengers*)
- Who looked at Merit gormlessly? (*passengers*)
- Who reluctantly sat back in their seats? (*everyone/passengers*)
- Why do you think the passengers were clogging the aisles?

- Why do you think they looked at Merit gormlessly?
- Why do you think the passengers sat back reluctantly in their seats?
- How would you describe Merit?

Heads together

Use the 'Tell me' prompts in the Vocabulary table to develop children's understanding of the focus words. If necessary, demonstrate the kind of responses you are expecting. Encourage children to ask questions about each other's responses.

Challenge children to look gormlessly at each other.

Challenge them to show you what sitting down reluctantly looks like.

Wrap up

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 *The Day of Treacherous Travel*
- Reading Journals
- Multiple copies of Resource sheet: Quiz

Ask children to read Chapter 3 and to write a summary of the chapter in their Reading Journals.

Children can read Chapter 4, then use the images on pages 30 to 31 to retell the story to their Reading Partner.

Children can use Resource sheet: Quiz to revisit the text and develop their scanning skills by finding information.

Resource sheet



Name: _____

Quiz

1. What does Merit wave at the passengers?

2. What happens when the train goes through a tunnel?

3. What does Merit use to open the driver's cab door?

4. What device does Shinoy notice fitted to the driver's dashboard?

5. What does the man with the bushy moustache ask?



Quiz answers

1. a lanyard

2. Merit disappears.

3. the Particle Splitter

4. a Dimension Drive

5. Is the buffet car open yet?