



The Day of the Unexpected Guest

Book band: Gold

S.N.A.I.R. is locked in Shinoy's bathroom, having escaped capture by the Chaos Crew. He has used a Protection Pod, which means he can't be caught for 28 hours. Unfortunately, the Chaos Crew can only advise down the phone. Shinoy remembers that Ember once used a Protection Pod and got out by using a release lever. He tells S.N.A.I.R. to press the lever on the toilet and he is flushed to the moon of Tractoria.

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
- 1c Identify and explain the sequence of events in texts
- 1g Read words accurately and fluently

Guided reading session

You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *The Day of the Unexpected Guest*

Tune in

Show children the front cover of the book and ask them to read the title.

Ask the following questions:

- What do you think an unexpected guest is?
- Who do you think it might be in this story?

Draw attention to the Shinoy and the Chaos Crew logo. Establish whether anyone has read any of the other books in the series and, if so, what they were about.

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

Read the back cover blurb.

Focus on the description of the mission and establish that this is an overview of the plot.

Explain that you are going to read the first part of the book, focusing particularly on reading dialogue with expression. Ask children to follow as you read.

Read pages 3 to 6, using different voices for each character. Use the speech verbs and punctuation to help you read with appropriate expression.

Take feedback from the children, asking what they noticed about your reading.

Heads together

Explain to children that they are going to read the next part of the story, focusing on reading the dialogue with expression.

Remind them to try to use different voices for the characters. Also ask them to look at the speech verbs, which will help them to know how to say the dialogue, and to check whether dialogue is a statement, a question or an exclamation.

Ask them to read pages 7 to 9.

As children read, move around the group, asking children to 'turn up the volume' so that you can hear them. Note children who are reading particularly well.

Wrap up

Ask some children that you identified to demonstrate how they read certain dialogue.

Ask: What have you learned about reading dialogue?

Ask children to briefly summarise what has happened so far in the story.

Vocabulary boost session

You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *The Day of the Unexpected Guest*
- A4 whiteboards and pens

Vocabulary table

Focus word	Child-friendly explanation	Example sentence	Tell me...
pathetic	If you describe someone or something as pathetic, you are saying that they are useless.	Our school team is pathetic because they never score any goals.	Tell me about something that you think is pathetic.
sly	If you give a sly look, you are feeling rather cheeky.	The girl took a sly glance at the empty seat near the exit.	Tell me why you might give a sly look.
demented	If you say someone or something is demented, you think they are strange or mad.	Our dog sometimes acts as if he is demented because he runs round in circles.	Tell me what might make you say someone is demented.

Tune in

Ask children to remind you what has happened so far in the story.

Ask: How do you think they are going to get rid of S.N.A.I.R.?

Read pages 10 to 13, briefly explaining the meaning of the focus words as you read them. Use the information in the Vocabulary table above to help you. Note that, in this context, 'sly' is used to indicate mischievousness rather than cunning.

Ask the following questions:

- Who said who were pathetic? (*S.N.A.I.R. said the Chaos/Caring Crew were pathetic.*)
- Who gave a sly grin? (*Shinoy*)
- Who said there was a demented villain in the bathroom? (*Mum*)
- Why do you think S.N.A.I.R. calls the Chaos Crew the Caring Crew?
- Why do you think he describes them as pathetic?
- Why do you think Myra gives Shinoy a fist bump?

- What has S.N.A.I.R. done to make Mum describe him as demented?

Heads together

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

Encourage children to ask questions about each other's responses. If necessary, highlight that describing someone as pathetic or demented could be very insulting.

Ask children to show you what a sly grin looks like.

Wrap up

Ask children to briefly summarise what has happened in this section of the story.

Challenge them to write three sentences on their whiteboards that each include one of the focus words. Once they have finished, ask them to hold up their boards so that you can check they display understanding of the meanings of the words.

Follow-up independent sessions

You will need

- Multiple copies of Collins Big Cat *The Day of the Unexpected Guest*
- Multiple copies of Resource sheet: Quiz

Ask children to read pages 14 to 18 aloud with their Reading Partner, focusing on reading dialogue with expression. They can then tell each other what they did well and whether they can improve on anything.

Ask children to read pages 19 to 21. They can then write a summary of the story in no more than 60 words.

Children can use Resource sheet: Quiz to develop their skills of finding information in a text.

Resource sheet



Name: _____

Quiz

1. Where does Ember say they had been hunting S.N.A.I.R.?

2. How long does a Protection Pod last?

3. What does Mum call the agro-weed?

4. Which member of the Chaos Crew does Shinoy say used a Protection Pod?

5. Where does Bug say S.N.A.I.R. has appeared?



1. in the jungles of Tangle Wild
2. 28 hours
3. gloopy jungle beanstalk
4. Ember
5. on the moon of Tractoria

Quiz answers