

LEARNING SUPPORT WORKSHEETS THAT REQUIRE KNOWLEDGE OF THE STORY

ANSWERS FOR TEACHERS

MYSTERY MAZE

If a worksheet does not appear in the list below, it is 'generic' in its requirements, calling on children's general basic skills, without specific reference to the story. In other words, a teacher will know what the correct answer is without having read the story at all.

THE ATTIC

1. A curious girl is mystified by the forbidden locked attic at the top of her aunts' amazing house. The house is like something from a monster movie, dark, mysterious and in the middle of an old cemetery. She wonders what secrets her aunt might be hiding in the attic. All of her three husbands died mysteriously. She was sure she would find their bodies (or parts of) up there. At Christmas time she tries to convince her sister to go up there with her, but she is too scared, and they'd promised mum not to go up there. Mum always said "break a promise, lose a promise. She finds the key in her aunts' knitting bag, bingo! She quietly creeps up the winding stairs with a candle so she can see. Terrified, she enters, pulse racing, sweat gathering on her forehead. It's dark, a cold chill grips her heart. She sees three jars, and picks one up....teeth! Gross! She knew it! She hears a noise getting louder and closer. Dropping everything, she scrambles back to the safety of her bed. "FIRE" her aunt screams. Oh no, the candle. Her mum puts her arm around her and sobs, "I'm sorry, your bike will be ruined." "My bike, I don't have a bike." "I promised you one for Christmas, I always hide the Christmas presents in the attic" said mum. The only secret she uncovered was the truth to her mothers' words.

2. yes, yes, no, yes, no, yes, yes

6. The flame of the candle flickered.

THE FOOL FAILS

1. It was Monday morning; Mr Farley had turned over the whiteboard and seen what was written on the other side, "FARLY IS A FAT FOOL" in big red letters, with a cartoon of him beside it. He was angry, and went red in the face. The children had not arrived yet; he was determined to find out who did it, and had four suspects in mind. At playtime, he kept Rory, Shane, Ron and Jenny in. They had been the only ones kept in after school on Friday. He questioned them, but no one would own up, so he decided to interview them individually. First, he questioned Bradley; it couldn't have been him, he had a broken finger and his hand was bandaged. Jenny was next, she was ready to cry. She said that it must have been Brad or Shane, as she was a good speller, and Mr. Farley's name was spelt incorrectly. Next was Ron. He said that it couldn't have been him, as he didn't

know how to use exclamation marks. He said that Jenny was very mad at being kept in on Friday. Shane was last. He said that it can't have been him as he is bad at drawing, and that Brad and Jenny were good drawers. Mr. Farley suddenly realised who the culprit was. He opened the door and pointed to them. It was Jenny. She had deliberately misspelt the name to make it look like one of the boys. She apologised.

2a. Someone had drawn and written on his whiteboard.

b. He had a broken finger.

c. She was a good speller.

d. He failed his punctuation test.

e. He was bad at drawing.

f. She was angry at being kept in.

THE CRYING IN THE DARK

1. Bob and his wife Ann are on the back porch of their home and hear some crying. It's dark, they get a torch, climb the fence and look in the bush, but they can't find anything. The next day they hunt everywhere. There was no one in the bush. On the third night they hear crying again. They look out and see a white shape moving in the blackberries. It was a small white dog, caught in the bushes. They freed him, brought him back to the house, and fed him. He licked Bob's hand. He was a poodle. They put a blanket out for him to sleep on. He has big sad eyes. The next day they phone the radio station, look in the paper and ask the neighbours to see if they know of anyone missing a dog. No one knew who anybody missing a dog. The next day they phone the pound, looked at notices in the supermarket but still no owner could be found. They take him walking with them around the neighbourhood, hoping that someone would recognise the little dog. A little girl playing in her front yard yells out "MUMMY, its Timmy!" He leapt out of Ann's arms and ran to the lady, she cried and said thanks. She thought he was dead. He licked her and the little girl. They were new to the neighbourhood and Timmy had wondered off and gotten lost, it was three days before Bob and Ann had found him.

2. could, wife, find, night, shape, small, prickles, house, hungry, meat

3. False, False, True, True

6. The little dog jumped out of Ann's arms to the lady and licked her. She cried and cuddled him. He licked the girl.

They fed the little dog and put him on an old blanket in the kitchen. He looked at them with sad eyes wanting to go home.

RUN ROGER RUN

1. A rat called Roger keeps escaping from his cage. How did he get out?

Peter got Roger the rat, for his Birthday. Along with Roger, mum bought him a strong metal cage, she knew that rats liked to gnaw through things so the cage had to be strong. Peter has a little sister Jenny, who wishes Roger was her pet. She has a pet budgerigar, Billy, who doesn't seem to do much. She is much more interested in Roger. She often goes into Peter's room to see if Roger is awake. Jenny is a sleepwalker. She often gets up at night and wanders the house. Peter also has a baby brother Jimmy, who also likes Roger. He likes to hold him. He has learnt how to open the cage. Jimmy is teething and often wakes at night, he likes to chew on hard objects. Roger is most active at night. A week ago, Roger disappeared. There was no sign of him in the house. Mum found him that night in the cupboard in the hall. He had gnawed a hole in a shoebox and made a nest for himself inside. Peter put him back in his cage and put an extra wooden peg on his cage for safety. Then two days ago Roger disappeared again. The broken clothes peg had tooth marks on it, it was lying next to the cage. They looked everywhere for him. Mum found him in the wardrobe in one of dad's shoes. Roger had opened the cage himself. He was intelligent and capable of learning how to push the door open. The teeth marks on the peg were Roger's!

2. Jenny is a sleepwalker.

Jimmy is teething.

Mum is a light sleeper.

Roger is a very clever rat.

Billy is a budgerigar.

Peter is Roger's carer.

5. That night, mum heard a noise in her wardrobe. She turned on the lights and looked. There was Roger sitting up in one of dad's shoes, looking at her.

THE BREAD THIEF

1. Jake and Molly had to help their dad these holidays in their bakery. Molly didn't mind, she loaded the shelves with cakes. Jake sure did though, he would rather be out skateboarding with his friend Scott. He worked out the back, taking hot loaves out of the huge ovens, and stacking them onto racks to cool. There were no windows, and the smell of bread was quite strong, so the back door was always left open. He wore mitts to protect his hands from the hot bread. Scott would visit him everyday while he worked in the shop; he knew when to come, in the morning, before the lunchtime rush when he knew they'd be too busy serving customers. That morning the first thing Jake noticed about Scott was his anxious voice. He looked upset. His spotted Dalmatian, Bounce had gone missing. When he woke that morning, the gate was open and Bounce was gone. Jake and Molly couldn't leave the shop to help Scott search for his dog until after lunch; dad was in the house doing paperwork. The house was attached to the back of the shop. Later, in the back room Jake noticed six loaves of bread missing. He knew he'd filled the rack. Someone had stolen them. Dad wasn't very happy, and said they'd have to keep

the back door closed from now on. They left the shop and helped Scott search for Bounce on their bikes. They couldn't find a trace of Bounce anywhere. They had to be back at the bakery by 5.30 to help load the ovens. Whilst Molly loaded the ovens, she heard a scratching sound from outside the back door. Molly clutched the wooden handle she was holding even harder, she beckoned Jake to stand with her. She turned the light off. They were hoping to catch the thief. They flicked the light on ready to pounce on the intruder. The thief stared guiltily at the children; they stared back surprised. They had solved two mysteries at once. The bread thief was Bounce!

2. disliked, always, six, scratching, off, Bounce

3. Whilst Molly loaded the ovens, she heard a scratching sound from outside the back door. Molly clutched the wooden handle she was holding even harder, she beckoned Jake to stand with her. She turned the light off. They were hoping to catch the thief.

FISHY BUSINESS

1. The twins loved a mystery. So when their goldfish, Fin started behaving oddly, it was up to them to discover why. Tim noticed him hurtling through the water, only to hit his nose on the glass. Tiny bubbles whooshed out from under his tail. They thought Fin was farting. Their mother and father didn't want to hear about it. Their teacher Mrs. Crisp thought they were deliberately wasting class time and gave them extra spelling words to learn. None of their friends believed them either. Kate decided to take a book out of the library, and meet Tim in the tree house after soccer practice. Tim burped, and wondered if it was his food making him windy. They weren't overfeeding him, and his water temperature was okay. They decided to look on the internet for more information, as the book was outdated. Dad didn't like them to use the PC when he wasn't home. It was a life or death situation, they thought he might fart himself to death. They couldn't find anything online, so they decided to take it in turns watching him. They did their homework in front of the tank, and even took it in turns sneaking out of their rooms and sleeping on the sofa. They fell asleep in front of the fish tank and got in trouble for being out of their beds. They were allowed to sleep in the family room on Friday night, so long as they weren't too sleepy the next day to spend time with their Nanna. They'd been minding her bird, and were sick of having to sweep up birdseed from all over the room. That night they hid behind the couch, they kept one eye on the fish tank and one on the birdcage. Just after midnight the budgie slid open its cage door, and poked its head out from under the cover. Next, he was pecking the top of the fish tank and setting poor Fin in motion. Kate wanted to murder him, but because he was special to her Nanna she caught him and gently put him back in his cage. She clipped the door shut, and made sure his cover came all the way over the cage. They both fell asleep with smiles on their faces.

2. 3, 6, 2, 1, 5, 4

6. That night they hid behind the couch, they kept one eye on the fish tank and one on the birdcage. Just after midnight the budgie slid open its cage door, and poked its head out

from under the cover. Next, he was pecking the top of the fish tank and setting poor Fin in motion.

THE MIDNIGHT RAIDERS

1. Max and Jenny waited silently under the covers for the grandfather clock to chime midnight. Max had to sleep in Jenny's room while mum did up his room. Armed with torches, they snuck down the wooden staircase, both trying to get in front of each other; they knew there was only one chocolate ice cream left. Max leapt down the last four steps. Jenny's cat scratched him. They tried to move a little quieter, not wanting to wake mum and dad. In the kitchen, they turned their torches off; the room was bathed in a ghostly glow. Just as Jenny put her hand on the freezer, they heard a 'tap, tap, tap. They froze. The cat had dashed through the flap door. Max froze. He heard something move in the pantry. Jenny tried to scare Max, "Ooooooh! Ooooooh! She moaned. He was frightened, until Jenny told him it was only her! Max spun around, pushed in front of Jenny and said, "I'm having the chocolate one. There's vanilla or banana flavours left. Which one do you want Jenny?" A high-pitched voice crackled through the air "WHO DARES TO OPEN MY DOOR?" Max thought it was just Jenny putting on a silly voice again, teasing him. But Jenny had broken out in a sweat. Her eyes bulged as she scanned the room to find out where the voice was coming from. "WHO DARES TO DISTURB THE FREEZER FAIRY?" "CLOSE MY FREEZER DOOR OR THE FREEZER FAIRY WILL TURN YOU BOTH INTO FROZEN FRUIT FINGERS! HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE...an evil cackle surrounded them. Max panicked and wanted to get out of there. Jenny started to grin. She swung the pantry door open. "Hi Mum!" Mum blushed and made a dash toward the fridge. "Did I mention that the Freezer Fairy's favourite food is chocolate ice cream? Hee hee hee hee hee hee."

2. 6, 5, 2, 4, 3, 7, 1

6. Max and Jenny waited silently under the covers for the grandfather clock to chime midnight. Max had to sleep in Jenny's room while mum did up his room. Armed with torches, they snuck down the wooden staircase, both trying to get in front of each other; they knew there was only one chocolate ice cream left.

ACCUSED

1. Emily woke up early, and went into the living room. Mum and dad had had visitors last night and sometimes things were interesting in the living room after visitors. There was half a big chocolate cake on the table, and there was a slice neatly cut at one end. Her mouth watered, she wasn't supposed to eat things like that without asking. She couldn't help herself. She picked up the slice of cake, and in less than five seconds, it was gone. Suddenly her mum was at the door, asking her if she had eaten the cake. Emily jumped with guilty shock. Before her mouth could be stopped, she said, "No mum. It wasn't me" Mum looked at her hard. "It must have been Mark or Timothy." Emily didn't want her brothers to get the blame, and said that it wasn't them. Mum questioned everyone around the breakfast table. Nobody owned up. The boys

questioned Emily outside. Mum asked Emily if she had anything she wanted to say; “No” she said. Dad said she’d feel better if she confessed to mum, but Emily said she didn’t do it. Everyone thought she did it. Guilt was rising up like a fizzy drink inside her. Then she felt angry. “It wasn’t my fault, they shouldn’t have left it there,” she thought. “It was probably a bird, or a mouse, or a cockroach,” shouted Emily. She climbed up into the tree house and tried to remember if she did actually eat the cake. She got down, and had a look at her teeth in the bathroom mirror. There was no cake stuck in them. She told her family that it proved it wasn’t her. They questioned why she had to look at her teeth if she hadn’t eaten it. Finally she confessed. Mum gave her a big hug.

2. Yes, no, no, yes, no, yes

4. Did I really eat that cake? Did I? One minute it was there; the next moment, it was gone. Was it me? I don’t think it was me. Otherwise I’d remember.

What did it taste like? I don’t even know that. If I’d eaten it, I’m sure I’d feel the taste in my mouth. But I can’t feel a thing. My mouth is just blank.

5. The boys questioned Emily outside in the garden. They were sure that it must have been her.