

JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH, by Roald Dahl

Lesson 2

Chapters 13 and 14

V:

- What does it mean if something shimmers?
- What is gossamer?
- What does 'coldly' tell you about the glow-worm's mood?
- Define 'desolate'.
- Define 'insidiously'.

I:

- Why does centipede fall asleep?
- Why isn't the light turning off?
- Why does all the furniture crash against the wall?

P:

- Predict where the peach will go.

E:

- Do you think James made the right decision to sleep in the peach? Why?

R:

- Who made the beds?
- How would James like his bed?
- What are glow-worms?
- What awakens James?
- What are the creatures doing to the peach?

S:

- Summarise the creatures's decision to leave in one word.

Chapters 15 and 16

V:

- What are sightseers?
- What is a gape?
- What is something if it is a 'seething mass'?
- Define 'serenely'.

I:

- Why aren't Sponge and Spiker particularly bothered about James's absence? What can we learn from this?
- Why is the peach picking up speed?

P:

- Predict what will happen now the peach is in the sea.

E:

- Do you think Sponge and Spiker got what they deserved? Why?
- Why does the author mention a chocolate factory?

R:

- What was the awful noise?
- What happens to Sponge and Spiker?
- What happens to the chocolate factory?
- What was the peach heading towards?

S:

- Summarise the journey of the peach in one sentence.

Chapters 17 and 18

V:

- What does it mean if something is 'indescribable'?
- Define 'disentangle'.
- Define 'perish'.

I:

- Why was the journey so horrible?
- Why might the glow-worm's lighting system have been faulty?
- Why do they sit in silence as the glow-worm tries to light up?
- Why does the earthworm believe they will perish?
- Why won't they starve?

P:

- Predict if they will be rescued.

E:

- Do you think it's wise to eat the peach? Why?

R:

- What happened to the glow-worm's lighting system?
- How does ladybird identify they're in the sea?
- Why won't centipede initially go outside?
- How long did it take to get centipede's boots on?
- Where is the peach?
- How does James assume they will be rescued?
- What was the only thing ladybird had ever eaten?

S:

- Describe the ladybird in one word.

Chapters 19 and 20

V:

- Define 'anxiously'.
- What is a perambulator?
- Define 'aghast'.
- What is pandemonium?
- Define 'martyr'.

I:

- Why does centipede's voice go shaky?
- Why does panic and pandemonium break out?
- Why does no one think James's plan will work?
- Why does earthworm get hysterical?

P:

- Predict how James will try and defeat the sharks.

E:

- How does the author create tension alongside humour in these chapters?

R:

- What can be seen swimming in the water?
- What does the shark do when they tell it to go away?
- Where are they going to get string from?
- How does James intend to rescue them from the sharks?

S:

- Summarise how the reader feels after reading these chapters in one word.

Chapters 21 and 22

V:

- 'The water was boiling with them' – what does this mean?
- What is 'below deck'?
- Define 'tethered'.

I:

- Why is the earthworm upset?
- How were the creatures going to keep the earthworm safe?
- Why would they not want the rope to tighten too much around the seagull's neck?
- Why was James sweating?
- Why did the sharks work harder?

P:

- Predict what will happen now they are airborne.

E:

- Who is the hero of the mission? Why do you think this?

R:

- Why won't the earthworm see the birds coming?
- How long did it take to get ready?
- How far out did James let the seagull fly?
- How many seagulls did it take to make the peach fly?

S:

- Summarise how James feels in these chapters in one word.

Chapters 23 and 24

V:

- What does 'in a flash' tell you?
- What does it mean to do something 'literally'?
- Define 'distinctly'.
- Define 'scornfully'.
- What does 'rambunctious' mean?

I:

- Why did the creatures begin to dance?
- Why was everyone surprised that the peach was barely damaged?
- Why doesn't the captain like the peach?
- Why does everyone think the captain has been at the whisky?

P:

- Predict where the peach will land.

E:

- Why do you think the author included these two chapters?

R:

- Who goes to check the condition of the peach?
- How much damage have the sharks done?
- Why couldn't the sharks do much damage to the peach?
- What is below the peach?
- Who plays music for everyone?
- Where are grasshopper's ears?

S:

- Summarise the character of grasshopper in one word and explain your choice of word.
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HOMEWORK:

Write a **short story** about another **adventure** that James and the gang might go on. Think about **what would happen** and **what characters they would encounter**.

OR

Who is your **favourite character** and **why?**