

A Sparkly Night with Leo the Lion

Learning objective: To retrieve information from a non-fiction text and use descriptive language to describe a setting.

Read the passage about Bonfire Night carefully. Then, answer the questions below to test your understanding of the history and traditions of this celebration.

On the fifth of November, Leo the Lion gathers his friends to watch the night sky burst into colour. In the United Kingdom, this night is known as Bonfire Night or Guy Fawkes Night. It is a tradition that has been celebrated for over four hundred years. Long ago, in 1605, a group of people tried to change history by plotting to blow up the Houses of Parliament. The plot failed, and people lit bonfires across the country to celebrate the King's safety. Today, families gather to watch spectacular fireworks displays, eat warming food like jacket potatoes, and enjoy the crackle of a bonfire. It is important to stay safe by standing back from the fire and always wearing gloves when holding a sparkler.

Word bank: commemorate · tradition · spectacular · sparkler · history · celebration · atmosphere

1. What is the date of Bonfire Night, and what is the other name it is known by? (2 marks)

2. Using information from the text, explain why people first started lighting bonfires in 1605. (2 marks)

3. Find and copy one adjective from the text that describes the fireworks display. (1 mark)

4. Why does the author suggest wearing gloves when holding a sparkler? (1 mark)

5. Leo the Lion wants to host a party. If he buys a pack of sparklers for £4.50 and hot chocolate for £3.25, how much does he spend in total? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Leo the Lion standing safely at a distance from a bonfire. Include at least three sensory details in your drawing, such as glowing embers, bright sparks, or dark night clouds.



Extension challenge: Write a short poem about the sounds of Bonfire Night. Try to use at least two onomatopoeic words (words that sound like the noise they describe, such as 'bang' or 'hiss').