

A Snowy Surprise at the Library

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills by identifying key themes and using descriptive language to describe a festive setting.

Read the story below carefully. Answer the questions that follow in full sentences, ensuring you use evidence from the text.

The village library was usually a quiet place, but today it was filled with the soft, festive glow of candlelight. Pip the caterpillar had spent the entire morning arranging books about winter wonders on the wooden bureau. Outside, the first snowflakes of the season were drifting down, settling like powdered sugar on the window ledge. Max the monkey arrived, shivering slightly and shaking snow from his scarf. 'I have a mathematical puzzle for you, Pip!' Max exclaimed, holding a stack of books. 'If I have twelve books to return and you have room for three on each shelf, how many shelves will we need to fill?' Pip giggled, pointing to a cosy corner filled with cushions. 'Before we solve puzzles, Max, look at the window!' Together, they watched as the garden transformed into a winter wonderland. It was the perfect start to the holiday season, with the smell of pine needles in the air and the promise of many stories to share.

Word bank: festive · bureau · cosy · anticipation · twinkling · whimsical

1. How does the author describe the way the snow looked on the window ledge? (2 marks)

2. Why was the library different today compared to how it is usually described? (2 marks)

3. What is the mathematical problem Max presents to Pip, and what is the answer? (2 marks)

4. Find and copy two adjectives from the text that help create a warm and festive atmosphere. (2 marks)

5. Based on the text, why do you think Pip and Max are excited about the arrival of winter? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the library's 'cosy corner' as described in the story, including the cushions and the view of the snowy garden through the window.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph describing what Pip and Max might do next in the library. Use at least three words from the word bank in your writing.