

Mastering the Meaning: Pip's Reading Tips

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills by identifying explicit information and inferring meaning from a text.

Read the short story below about Pip the caterpillar's garden adventure. Use the 'Detective Reading' method: underline clues in the text before answering the questions.

Pip the caterpillar crawled slowly along the edge of a giant, dew-covered leaf. The morning sun was just beginning to peek over the garden fence, turning the grass into a sea of sparkling emeralds. Pip adjusted his tiny spectacles and opened his favourite book, 'The Secrets of the Soil'. He loved reading while the garden was still quiet, as it helped him imagine the deep tunnels beneath his feet. Suddenly, a bright, colourful butterfly landed nearby. 'Good morning!' the butterfly chirped. Pip jumped, nearly dropping his book into a puddle. 'Oh! You gave me quite a fright,' Pip laughed, his face turning a shade of rosy pink. The butterfly smiled and invited Pip to see the view from the top of the sunflower, but Pip shook his head politely. 'Thank you, but I have a whole chapter left to finish before breakfast,' he replied, turning back to his pages.

Word bank: Inference · Evidence · Expression · Character · Setting · Predict

1. How does Pip feel when the butterfly lands nearby? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (2 marks)

2. At what time of day does this story take place? Find two clues in the text that tell you this. (2 marks)

3. Why does Pip choose to stay on his leaf instead of going to the top of the sunflower? (1 mark)

4. The author describes the grass as a 'sea of sparkling emeralds'. What does this tell you about how the garden looks? (2 marks)

5. If Pip were to visit the sunflower, what do you think he might see? Explain your prediction. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip's reading nook on the leaf. Include the details mentioned in the text, such as his spectacles and his book.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph from the butterfly's perspective explaining why they wanted to show Pip the view from the top of the sunflower.