

A Magical World Book Day

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills by identifying key information, inferring character feelings, and explaining vocabulary in context.

Read the story below carefully, then answer the questions that follow in full sentences. Remember to check your spelling and punctuation.

The sun rose over the school, and the corridors were buzzing with excitement. It was World Book Day! Pip the caterpillar had spent all week preparing. Pip loved collecting words, and today was the perfect day to find some new ones. He crawled into the school library, where his friends were already gathered. Max the monkey was busy calculating how many pages were in the entire library, while Ellie the elephant was busy recounting the history of her favourite fairy tales. The library had been transformed into a magical forest. Zara the zebra had decorated the walls with colourful patterns inspired by her favourite adventure stories. Every child had brought in their favourite book to share. Some children dressed as brave explorers, while others wore costumes representing their favourite literary characters. By lunchtime, the group had shared stories from around the world. They discussed how books allow us to travel to distant lands without ever leaving our chairs. As the day drew to a close, Pip felt very proud. He had collected twenty new words, including 'enchanted' and 'discovery', and he could not wait to read his next story at home.

Word bank: adventure · imagination · celebrate · costume · author · character

1. Why was the school buzzing with excitement at the start of the story? (2 marks)

2. What were Max and Ellie doing in the library at the beginning of the day? (2 marks)

3. How did Zara help to make the library feel like a magical forest? (2 marks)

4. In your own words, explain what the children meant when they said books allow them to travel without leaving their chairs. (3 marks)

5. How many new words did Pip collect, and which two examples does the text give? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of what you think the 'magical forest' library looked like, including Pip and his friends enjoying the decorations.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are an author. Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing a new book character you would like to dress up as for World Book Day next year.