



Session 1 - Close Read

Teacher Notes

The purpose of a close read activity is to gain an understanding of the text by reading it multiple times and making sure we really study what the author is trying to tell us.

(All close read texts are age appropriate.)

Close Read Instructions:

- 1) Read the blurb about the text to see where it is taken from.
- 2) Look at the vocabulary highlighted. Do you know what the words mean? The vocabulary box will help you.
- 3) Read the text to yourself and think:
What did I just read?
What did it say?
 - 1) Now read the text again with a grown-up.
 - 2) Read the questions and now reread the text again to find the clues for your answer.
 - 3) Answer the questions in writing.

WHAT IS THE CORONAVIRUS?



The coronavirus is a kind of **virus**.

Viruses are tiny germs that are so small that you can't see them.

They are so light that they can float through the air in tiny drops of water, and they can sit on your skin without you feeling them. If some of these germs get inside you, they can use your body to make more germs, and that can make you ill.

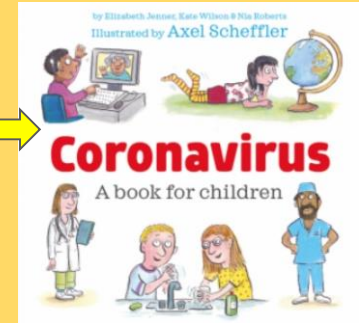


Do I have germs on me now?



Yes, but hardly any of them are dangerous

Today's extract comes from a brand new book!



Questions

- (1) Write down 2 things that the coronavirus germs can do because they are so small.
- (1) Should the girl in the spotty top be worried about germs? Explain your answer.

Session 2 - Sentence Writing

Teacher Notes

The purpose of this session is to make sure that the verbs used in a sentence are in the correct tense. To do this. We have to check that the verb.
Verbs can be in the present tense:

I watch the TV today.

OR

They can be in the past tense:

I watched the TV yesterday.

Often we add ed to the of a verb to change to the past tense (*jump -> jumped*). Sometimes, the whole verb changes (*run-> ran*).

Answers on the next page.

Change each sentence into the **past tense** by changing the **verb**. The first one has been done for you.

1. Last week I walk to the shops.
Last week I walked to the shops.
2. The day before, James climb up the tree.
2. The boy fall out out the tree.
2. Jane run as fast as she could.
2. Paula and Kenny hop on one leg.
2. The cat grab the mouse by its tail.



Answers

1. Last week I walked to the shops.
2. The day before, James climbed up the tree.
2. The boy fell out of the tree.
2. Jane ran as fast as she could.
2. Paula and Kenny hopped on one leg.
2. The cat grabbed the mouse by its tail.



Session 3 - Sentence Writing

Teacher Notes

The purpose of this session is to practise some precise grammar skills in sentence writing. The skill we are looking at today is to use **conjunctions** to join two parts (**clauses**) of a sentence together.

Here is a sentence:

I took my umbrella because it was raining.

The two blue parts (the clauses) are joined by the red conjunction *because*.

This is more interesting than just writing:

I took my umbrella. It was raining.

Other conjunctions we will use in this session are: *and, but*

Here is part of a story. Read it and spot the conjunctions:

and but because .

Jo had been waiting to get on her bike all morning. She was upset because her mum had said she must tidy her bedroom before she went out. It took her a lot longer to clean her room than she had hoped and now it was nearly eleven o'clock.

Finally, she was ready and she wheeled her red mountain bike down the drive. Soon she was racing along the dirt track towards the sea and she felt her heart pound with excitement. Jo hoped it would be another fab day but someone had just slithered out of the bushes to change that!



Copy these sentences down and choose the best conjunction (*and but because*) to fill in the gap. The first one has been done for you.

1. Jane smiled because she was taking a selfie.
1. Marie took her umbrella _____ she thought it might rain.
1. Flo was eating her picnic _____ Jess was working on her laptop.
1. Rob had put a scarf on _____ he was still cold.

Now, finish off these sentences (use the picture to help you):

1. The dog wagged his tail because _____.
2. The sun was shining and _____.
3. Lil had got some nuts for the birds but _____.



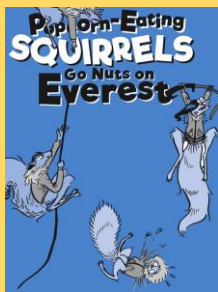
Session 4 - Reading Comprehension

Teacher Notes

Typically reading comprehension extracts are longer than those used for Close Read exercises. The purpose of the reading comprehension is, as the name suggests, to develop and demonstrate an understanding of the text. Your child should be encouraged to read the text twice before attempting to answer the questions. They should refer to the text as they are answering the question using the techniques of **scanning** (searching the text for a key-word) and **skimming** ('hopping' over the text not reading every word in order to locate the part where the answer may lie).

Reading Comprehension Instructions:

- 1) This text is taken from an extract of a book called *Popcord Eating Squirrels go Nuts on Everest*
- 2) Read the text.
- 3) Now read the text again with a grown-up.
- 4) Read the questions and now reread the text again to find the clues for your answer (look for key-words in the question and use **scanning** and **skimming** to help you find them in the text.
- 5) Answer the questions in writing.



It was a helter-skelter journey across town. Four squirrels in a race against time:

BEN

CASSIE

ALFIE

SALTY

Four *hungry* squirrels with one thing on their minds.

POPCORN!

‘Get a move on!’ Ben cried. ‘The boat’s about to launch!’

Ben was the route finder. The others followed, jumping from rooftop to rooftop, scampering from tree to tree.

Salty trailed behind, puffing and panting, his tufty ears dripping with sweat.

‘Not so fast, pals,’ he moaned. ‘Your old

pal Salty is running out of steam! My poor wee paws are getting awful sore!’

‘Keep up!’ Cassie said sternly. ‘We’re almost there.’

In the distance they could see the glittering outline of the shiny new cruise ship.

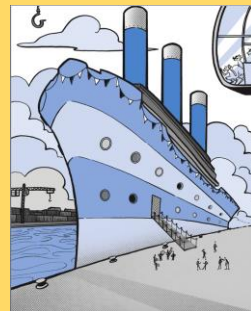
The cruise ship with a six-screen cinema on board.

The cruise ship that would be a floating paradise for popcorn-addicted squirrels.

The cruise ship with the biggest popping machine on the PLANET!

‘All we have to do is smuggle ourselves on board,’ Ben puffed, ‘hide away in the cinema and wait for the messy humans to leave us our favourite treat. Day after day.’

‘Popcorn of our dreams, yay!’ yelled Alfie, the youngest of the squirrels. ‘Alfie wants caramel!’



Questions

1. What are the names of the 4 squirrels?
2. What is the only thing on their minds?
3. What is Ben's job (choose one)?
 - a. treasure finder
 - b. route finder
 - c. food finder
 - d. tree climber?
4. Why are the squirrels in a hurry?
5. What is the verb used to describe the way the squirrels moved from rooftop to rooftop?
6. *Salty trailed behind, puffing and panting, his tufty ears dripping with sweat.* What does this tell you about Salty squirrel.
7. How many screens does the ship's cinema have?
8. Why do the squirrels want to hide in the cinema?



(Answers on the next page.)

Answers

1. What are the names of the 4 squirrels? Ben, Cassie, Alfie, Salty
2. What is the only thing on their minds? Popcorn
3. What is Ben's job (choose one)?
 - a. treasure finder
 - b. route finder
 - c. food finder
 - d. tree climber?
4. Why are the squirrels in a hurry? The ship is about to sail away (launch).
5. What is the verb used to describe the way the squirrels moved from rooftop to rooftop?
jumping
6. *Salty trailed behind, puffing and panting, his tufty ears dripping with sweat.* What does this tell you about Salty squirrel. He is very hot and tired.
7. How many screens does the ship's cinema have? Six
8. Why do the squirrels want to hide in the cinema? So that they can eat the popcorn

dropped by the messy humans.

Session 5 - Writing Task

Teacher Notes

Instructions:

- 1) On the next page is a link to a video of a short story called The Silent Red book.
- 2) You need to watch the video (two times)
- 3) You need to write the story in your own words.
- 4) When you have finished, go back and check you writing for spellings. CL. FS and sense.



1. Click on the picture to watch the video.
2. When you have watched the video, tell the story in your own words.

Here are some words that you might need to spell:

- city
- station
- hungry
- lonely
- rubbish bins
- angry
- climbed
- gazed
- shooting star
- shadows
- remembered



<https://www.literacyshed.com/silentredbook.html>

3. When you have finished, check your work:
 - spelling
 - CL & FS
 - sense