

STIG OF THE DUMP

Guided Reading Questions and Activities

Chapter 3: Warms You Twice

Day 1 (AF2)

1. Where does the beam in Barney's room apparently come from?
2. What does Barney's Grandfather always say about wood?
3. How does Barney describe the sound of the frozen leaves?
4. What frightens Barney in the dark?

Challenge: Describe the times in this chapter when Barney and Stig are using their imagination.

Day 2 (AF3)

1. Why might Stig be so quiet and miserable?
2. Do you think that Stig's lack of English causes problems for Barney?
3. What might Stig have been thinking when he saw the cross-cut saw?
4. What might Stig have said in his own language when his bowstring broke?

Challenge: Are there any clues in the story so far that suggest Barney thinks about his Grandfather often

Day 3 (AF4/5)

1. Why has the author used "snore- snore" to describe sawing the wood?
2. What verbs are used to describe the tree falling down?
3. When Stig is drawing, the author describes Barney as, "Hopping with excitement." What alternative verbs might have been used?
4. What might Slapiton paint be?

Challenge: Barney describes the tree as waiting and thinking. What is this method of making the tree sound human called?

Day 4 (AF6/7)

1. How do the events in this chapter link back to ancient history?
2. How similar is Barney's Christmas to your Christmas?
3. Why might somebody describe this chapter as ending with a moral message?
4. Why is it particularly funny that Stig used a blackboard to draw on with the chalk?

Challenge: How might the author be trying to show the reader that modern life is easier than ancient life?



Day 1 (AF2)

1. Where does the beam in Barney's room apparently come from?
2. What does Barney's Grandfather always say about wood?
3. How does Barney describe the sound of the frozen leaves?
4. What frightens Barney in the dark?

Challenge: Describe the times in this chapter when Barney and Stig are using their imagination.

1. The beam in Barney's room comes from a ship.
2. Barney's Grandfather always said that "wood warms you twice, one when you cut it and once when you burn it."
3. Barney describes the frozen leaves as crunching "like cornflakes".
4. Barney is frightened by a can that he thinks might be a bear, and by an owl.

Challenge: Barney and Stig use their imagination when they are drawing cave paintings and Stig imagines that he is hunting and when Barney imagines bears in the darkness.

Day 2 (AF3)

1. Why might Stig be so quiet and miserable?
2. Do you think that Stig's lack of English causes problems for Barney?
3. What might Stig have been thinking when he saw the cross-cut saw?
4. What might Stig have said in his own language when his bowstring broke?

Challenge: Are there any clues in the story so far that suggest Barney thinks about his Grandfather often

1. Stig might have been quiet and miserable because he was cold and alone in the wintery den.
2. Stig's lack of English doesn't seem to cause problems for Barney because the two muddle along well without it. On the other hand, Barney has to work hard at showing Stig how to use tools and this could be simpler if he could explain things to Stig with words.
3. Stig might have been confused when he saw the cross-cut saw as he did not understand what it was to be used for.
4. Stig may have said something like 'damn' in his own language when his bowstring broke.

Challenge: There are many clues that show that Barney thinks about his Grandfather a lot. He often thinks about things that his Grandfather had told him, such as that his beam was made from a boat, and uses quotes from his grandfather like "wood warms you twice".

Day 3 (AF4/5)

1. Why has the author used “snore- snore” to describe sawing the wood?
2. What verbs are used to describe the tree falling down?
3. When Stig is drawing, the author describes Barney as, “Hopping with excitement.” What alternative verbs might have been used?
4. What might Slapiton paint be?

Challenge: Barney describes the tree as waiting and thinking. What is this method of making the tree sound human called?

1. “snore-snore” describes the sound the saw makes as it cuts through wood. It is onomatopoeia.
2. The verbs used to describe the tree falling down are splitting, rending, screeching, rush, crash and splintering.
3. Alternative verbs for “hopping with excitement” could have been dancing with joy, bouncing with excitement etc.
4. Slapiton paint might be a brand of paint that is easily applied; slap it on paint.

Challenge: The method of making the tree sound human is personification.

Day 4 (AF6/7)

1. How do the events in this chapter link back to ancient history?
2. How similar is Barney's Christmas to your Christmas?
3. Why might somebody describe this chapter as ending with a moral message?
4. Why is it particularly funny that Stig used a blackboard to draw on with the chalk?

Challenge: How might the author be trying to show the reader that modern life is easier than ancient life?

1. Events in this chapter link back to ancient history by showing how ancient people developed fire, hunting and cave art.
2. Barney's Christmas may be like your own as it includes presents and spending time with family.
3. The chapter ends with a moral message as Barney is made happier having helped Stig than he was receiving presents. It shows that helping others is more rewarding than receiving things.
4. It is particularly funny that Stig uses a blackboard as this is reminiscent of teachers in the 1960s writing on the blackboard in a school.

Challenge: Clive King shows the reader that modern life is easier than ancient live by highlighting the use of tools such as axes and matches.