



Year 4 Reading

All children

Date: Thursday 16th July 2020

LO: To read and summarise a piece of text

Task:

Read or share chapter 36-37 of 'Demon Dentist' (The text is below the task).

This section is full of tension and action! Alfie and Gabz get into more trouble...

Your tasks for this week are to read and enjoy the rest of the Demon Dentist! When you have finished the chapters, discuss what has happened with someone else. If you have finished and have time, you can do a reading puzzle!

Demon Dentist by David Walliams chapter 36 and 37

Drowning Out Screams

As the clatter of the locomotive became louder, the Tooth Witch turned her head.

"A curse upon you!" she whispered, before hurrying the pace of her wickedness. Her long spindly fingers and Fang's sharp teeth raced to unfasten the boy's final shackle, and plunge him headfirst into the

cauldron. As Alfie peered down, he realised he only had seconds to go until he became a skeleton.

The train sped through the entrance of the cave, and careered along its tracks heading straight for the witch. Just as the evil duo had managed to release Alfie's bonds there was a huge...

**CRASH
BANG
WALLOP**

The locomotive ploughed right into the throne.



screamed the witch.

hissed the cat.

Much to his surprise, Alfie was still alive. Gabz had managed to grab his ankle just in time. Now rocking her body back and forth, she swung him

As Alfie flew through the air, his dad was just able to grab his wrist, and yank him to the safety of the train. Opening his eyes, Alfie was now clinging by his fingertips to the front of it. Then he turned and looked forward. At that moment he realised he wasn't safe yet.

The train was heading at speed, slap bang into the wall of the cave!

"Dad!" yelled the boy. "The brakes!"

Alfie's father heaved the brake lever up, and with a huge screech the train came to a sudden stop, with Alfie less than a gnat's hair from the rocks.

"Thanks," sighed the boy.



"That's what dads are for..." sputtered his father breathlessly. All the dust and dirt in the cave was no good for his lungs. The doctors had told him never to go back down a mine; that just one more lungful of coal dust could prove fatal. But right now Dad could only think about one thing. Saving his son.

"Dad, you killed the Tooth Witch! And the cat!" exclaimed Alfie.

"All in a day's work..." he joked.

"How did you know I was down here?"

"Winnie called me. She guessed I'd be the only one who knew their way around the mine. And now the whole town is on its way..."

"Good old Winnie..." said the boy.

"Ha hum!" Gabz coughed theatrically.

"Oh yes!" said Alfie. "Sorry, Gabz..."

“Now as much as I normally love hanging upside down over a boiling witch’s cauldron, I was wondering whether you could untie me?” she said.

Dad stared at her. “Who’s this, son? Your girlfriend?”

“NO! For the last time! She is not my girlfriend!” exclaimed Alfie.

“All right!” replied Dad, coughing quite badly now. “I only asked.”

With all his might, he pulled a handle on the engine. Slowly and surely, the train reversed along the tracks to stop beside the cauldron. Alfie leaped off the front and on to the top of the engine. From there he stood on his tiptoes and untied the last of Gabz’s manacles. There was a distinctly awkward moment, where Alfie found himself holding the girl

who was definitely not his girlfriend upside down by her ankles. However, Dad leaned out and pulled her on to the train. Gabz jumped down, landing on a sack that was sitting in the car behind.

“Careful!” wheezed Dad.

“Why?” asked Gabz.

“That’s dynamite!” he replied.

“Cool!” said the girl.

Alfie knew all about how dynamite was used in coal mines. His father had told him many times about how he often needed to blast away hard rock to get to the coal behind.

Gabz's face lit up with an idea. "Let's use the dynamite to seal the cave behind us..."

"The witch is dead!" replied Alfie. "Let's just get out of here!"

And they were about to do just that when...

"Look!" screamed the girl.

Behind them the Tooth Witch and her cat were rising up out of the cauldron. All their skin and flesh had been burned away. Now they were both just skeletons.

Skeletons standing on their bony feet and coming right after them. Fast.



Skeletons on the March

The skeletons were marching right towards them. The witch one in front, the cat one a few paces behind, her long thin tail bone standing on end.

"There's no stopping her. Quick! Let's go!" yelled Dad.

Dad yanked the lever, and the train sped backwards out of the cave.

Gabz started rummaging through the sack.

"What are you doing?" said Alfie.

"Grabbing the dynamite so we can seal her in!" replied Gabz. "Now see if you can find a lighter or something..."

Alfie looked under another sack and found a tin housing some ancient matches, then lit the dynamite with shaking hands.

"Be careful, you two!" shouted Dad at the pair.

"Don't throw it until I tell you..." barked the boy.

They both stared nervously at the stick as the fuse burned down. Just before the train reached the cave entrance, Alfie yelled...



"Now!"

The girl threw the dynamite stick into the air and it exploded...

...bringing huge rocks crashing to the ground behind them. A gigantic cloud of dust and debris filled the tunnel.

"We did it!" cheered Alfie.

Now the train was travelling along the central tunnel at speed. They were heading towards the lift that would take them above ground. And to safety. For a while all that the three could hear was the rattle and hum of the train. Then out of the shadows, Dad spotted something.



“No!” he cried.

The kids turned around and saw the two skeletons, one human and one animal, zooming after them through the tunnel on the gas cylinder.

“Mummy’s going to get you...!” screamed the witch-skeleton.

“Dad, make this thing go faster!” shouted Alfie.

“It won’t go any faster!” spluttered Dad.

With the cylinder catching up with the train, Fang’s skeleton was taking clawed swipes at Dad, who was desperately ducking out of the way.

The witch-skeleton cackled as what was left of her cat scratched the man’s head viciously.

Gabz held the second stick of dynamite, while Alfie lit the fuse.

“Let me throw it this time!” he said.

“Now!” she shouted.

Alfie hurled it at the evil duo hovering just behind them.

