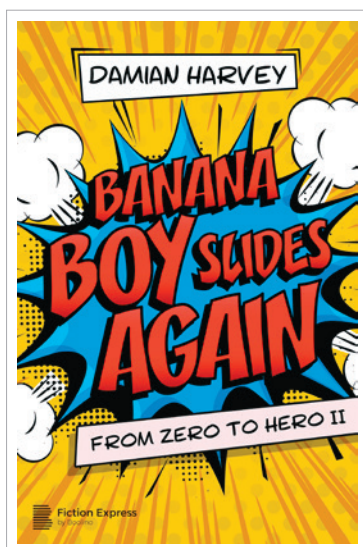


# Activities



**LEVEL 1**

## Banana Boy Slides Again

by Damian Harvey

**Genre** Humour

**Values** Self-esteem, autonomy, confidence, family, bravery

## Chapter 5. Help is Here

Banana Boy is not happy.... he is being rescued by a girl in a pink unicorn costume. He doesn't want any help, but he definitely seems to need it. And this is no ordinary girl...

### Skills addressed



Language and literacy



Digital skills and behaviour



Critical thinking and resilience



Maths, science  
and technology skills



Cultural awareness  
and understanding



Personal, social and health  
awareness and citizenship



Organisation  
and evaluation skills

## CONTENTS

*You can tick off the activities that you are working on in class.*



### READ

#### Reading lab



*Obtain and interpret information within the text*

- ☐ Guided reading notes
- ☐ Reading comprehension questions



### WRITE

#### Writing workshop



*Develop the art of creative writing*

- ☐ Inspire words
- ☐ Your opinion
- ☐ Present tense / Past tense



### TALK

#### Space for debate



*Reflect and construct your opinion, individually and working in a group*

- ☐ Discussion / role-play activity



### EXPLORE

#### Creative studio



*Dig deeper into the content in a fun way, using different methods of research*

- ☐ A letter to...

## ANSWERS

Exercise answers and suggestions for the teacher

**READ**

Reading lab

## Guided reading notes

Here you can find some tips to help you in your reading sessions in class.

1

Recap on the events so far. Ask: What must happen by the end of this chapter? (Banana Boy must defeat the monstrous monkey.) Read the first two paragraphs. Reread: *He was the superhero, so he did the saving.* Ask: Why are the words *He* written in that way? (italics for emphasis) Model reading them with emphasis.

2

Read to the break. Ask: Why doesn't Banana Boy think that Pink Unicorn can help? (because he is the superhero; because superheroes don't need help; because he doesn't think that girls in pink unicorn costumes can help) Ask: Is he right? Do superheroes need help? Can girls be strong?

3

What do you think Pink Unicorn means by "*You're making it stronger*"? Ask: How can the bananas make it stronger? (perhaps they are feeding it) Read to the break. Together, find all the verbs in this section: *gobbled, punched, bashed, roared, groaned, gasped, flew.* Ask: What else does *split* mean here?

4

Reread: "*Cool!*" said Banana Boy. Ask: How are Banana Boy's feelings about Pink Unicorn changing? (Agree that first he realises she talks sense, then he sees she can fly. He is beginning to respect her.) Together, think of other powers Pink Unicorn might have. (shower sparkles, making everyone happy and so on)

5

Read to the break. What other magical powers does Pink Unicorn have? (She can create sparkling rain.) Ask a volunteer to sequence the events that lead to the defeat of the monstrous monkey. Write the key words: *rainbow, rain, dolphin, spider, baboon, Mr Fluffy.* Ask: Who is Millie? (Ben's sister)

6

Read to the end. What is the joke? (Millie doesn't realise that Banana Boy is her brother.) Ask: Did you like the ending? Would you like to read more stories about Banana Boy and Pink Unicorn? Who could they fight next? Who else will turn out to be a superhero? (Mum perhaps)



Name: .....

# Reading comprehension

Answer the following questions about the chapter and explain your answers.

1 Why does Banana Boy say He *was the superhero*?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2 Why doesn't Banana Boy want help from Pink Unicorn?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3 Find and copy two interesting verbs from Banana Boy's fight with the monkey.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



## READ

Reading lab

Name: .....

4

What does the word Cool/ tell us about Banana Boy?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

5

How does Pink Unicorn make it rain?

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.....

.....

.....

.....

6

Why does Pink Unicorn cry at the end?

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.....

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.....

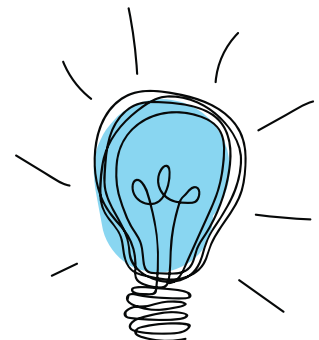
**WRITE**

Writing workshop

Name: .....

**Inspire words**

Find these words or phrases in the story. Look at how they are used. Cut them up and put them in a bag. Take turns to pull out a word or phrase and use it in a sentence.

**as quick as  
a flash****bashed****shrink****soaked****startled****swat**



## WRITE

Writing workshop

Name: .....

## Your opinion

Now that you have read the whole book, it's time to give your opinion on the story.

Fill in the boxes and then give the book a star rating.

**The book title** .....

**Author** .....

### Main plot

What was the story about?

Did you enjoy it?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

### Characters

Who were your favourite characters  
and why?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

### Overall rating

Rate the book from 1 to 5 by filling in the  
stars and explain your rating.



.....

.....

.....

**WRITE**

Writing workshop

Name: .....

## Present tense

Underline the verbs in these sentences which show that they are in the present tense.

1. Banana Boy is in trouble.
2. Pink Unicorn wants to help him.
3. The monkey gets stronger when it eats the bananas.
4. Banana Boy starts to like Pink Unicorn.
5. Banana Boy is surprised to find out who is wearing the costume.
6. Pink Unicorn cries and wants to go home.

## Past tense

Put these sentences into the past tense by changing the verbs from the present to the past.

- 
- 1 Banana Boy does not want any help from Pink Unicorn.
- .....

- 
- 2 Banana Boy is amazed when Pink Unicorn flies.
- .....

- 
- 3 The monstrous monkey changes into a dolphin.
- .....

- 
- 4 Pink Unicorn throws Mr Fluffy and knocks the monkey off the roof.
- .....
-



**TALK**

Space for debate

Name: .....

## Discussion / role-play activity

Banana Boy gets a big surprise when he finds out that Millie is Pink Unicorn. As a whole class, discuss the biggest surprises that you have had. What was the surprise? How did you feel?

In a small group, choose one of the surprises you have discussed and role-play the different parts in it, for example, one person surprising someone else, and the other being surprised. Remember to use lots of expression!



Banana Boy gets a big surprise at the end of the story when he finds out who is wearing the pink unicorn costume. Have a look at the Talk activity. Have you ever had a big surprise? Write a letter to a friend, telling them all about the surprise and how it made you feel.

[illegible]

# ANSWERS

*Document for the teacher*

## Reading comprehension (pp. 4–5)

For example:

1. He likes being the superhero and he wants to defeat the monster alone.
2. He doesn't think a proper superhero needs help, and he doesn't think that a superhero should be wearing a pink unicorn costume.
3. *gobbled, punched, bashed, exhausted, roared, groaned, gasped, flew*
4. He is beginning to see that Pink Unicorn is a proper superhero.
5. She makes a rainbow in the sky and that turns into sparkling rain.
6. She is just a little child, and she was suddenly tired.

## Present tense (p. 8)

1. Banana Boy is in trouble.
2. Pink Unicorn wants to help him.
3. The monkey gets stronger when it eats the bananas.
4. Banana Boy starts to like Pink Unicorn.
5. Banana Boy is surprised to find out who is wearing the costume.
6. Pink Unicorn cries and wants to go home.

## Past tense (p. 8)

1. Banana Boy **did** not want any help from Pink Unicorn.
2. Banana Boy **was** amazed when Pink Unicorn **flew**.
3. The monstrous monkey **changed** into a dolphin.
4. Pink Unicorn **threw** Mr Fluffy and **knocked** the monkey off the roof.