

RIDLEY'S ROVERS

Teacher Resources, Week 3

This PDF contains:

- **Text Questions:** In this section, you will find questions about the chapter. These can be used orally in guided or shared reading discussions, as an independent comprehension exercise, or as part of a written homework or reading club activity.
- **Making the Choice and Voting:** Before choosing how to vote, students could discuss, as a group or a class, the wider context of the story and the consequences for the characters of each voting option at the end of the chapter. Students should be encouraged to use a variety of resources in their research, including books and the Internet.
- **Writing Activities:** Fiction Express for Schools provides a brilliant springboard into writing and some ideas and inspiration are provided in this section.
- **Other Extension Activities:** This section provides ideas for cross-curricular extension activities related to the chapter.
- **Worksheets and Puzzles:** This section provides printable worksheets and puzzles for student use. Answers are also provided where appropriate.
- **Key Words and Phrases:** This section provides a selection of key words from the chapter for use in a classroom literacy display or 'working wall'.
- **Glossary:** Here you will find definitions of words used in the chapter.
- **Picture Resources:** This section provides images to inspire student discussion. These images can be displayed on a whiteboard or printed.
- **Resources:** Here you will find a list of relevant websites and books that students might find useful.

Text Questions

Chapter 3 Making Moves

1. How are West Park Rovers doing at the start of chapter 3? What is the main reason for the team's success?
2. *Somehow, after defensive mistakes left us two down at half- time, we came out on top in that one too.*
What do you think the phrase 'defensive mistakes' means in this sentence? Explain.
3. What bargain does Liam strike with Ridley at the beginning of chapter 3?
4. Why isn't Kitty happy about Liam staying on with Ridley after the training session? Find the evidence in the chapter to answer this question.
5. What is the the name of the man who keeps coming to matches to talk to Ridley, and who is he? Go back to the chapter to find out.
Teacher note: *"His name's Gareth Smith. He used to be my manager"*
6. Why do you think Ridley doesn't look at Liam when she is telling him about her ex-manager?
7. Ridley says, *"Playing football should be fun, right?"* Do you agree with this phrase? Do you think football is just 'fun' to Ridley? What evidence is there in chapter 3 to support your answer to this question?
8. Can you explain Ridley's new tactic? Try.
9. How did you feel when you read, *Ridley's idea was that she'd take the kick and pass straight back to me, ignoring Kitty?* Did you predict that Kitty wasn't going to be happy about this?

10. What makes Liam feel 'uneasy' as he walks home after the practice with Ridley? Go back to the chapter to find out.
11. What do we find out about Ridley's parents in chapter 3?
12. How did you feel about Ridley at this point in the story? Explain.
13. Why do Weldon Wanderers look *confident and impressive in their warm up*? Find the evidence in the chapter to answer this question.
14. What description does the author use to describe Ridley's never-flagging flow of energy? Go back to the chapter to find it. Do you think this is a good description?
Teacher note: *It was like she had some sort of super-powered battery inside her.*
15. How do you think the players of Weldon Wanderers felt at half-time?
16. Why do you think Micky is delighted by the half-time score of nil all?
17. What happens the first time Ridley and Liam try out their secret new kick off move? Go back to the chapter to find out.
Teacher note: *Ridley raced on to my pass. She'd have scored too if it hadn't been for a brilliant save by the keeper*
18. Why did Liam usually stand in the middle of the goal for corners? Find the evidence in the chapter to answer this question. Who does Liam ignore when he stands *a few metres outside the area*?
Teacher note: *I was tall for my age and the best header in the team so I usually stood in the middle of the goal for corners.*
19. Why do you think the Weldon goalkeeper *didn't even move* when Ridley scored her goal? Find the evidence in the chapter to answer this question.
20. What do you think the phrase *I dummied to shoot* means?

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by Alan Durant



21. Who isn't happy after West Park Rovers beat Weldon Wanderers? If you were Micky or Kitty would you feel as they do, or do you think they should have been just happy to have won the match?
22. Liam feels bad about keeping the new move from Kitty? Is feeling bad about something enough?
23. Do you think Ridley cares how Kitty and Micky feel after the match? What do you feel about this 'supercool' character at the end of the chapter?

Making the Choice and Voting

What is to come?

Option 1: Ridley announces that she cannot play in the semi-final of the cup. Her former manager says that she is still officially registered with his team. He says she must come back, but Ridley says she would rather not play at all.

Can you imagine how the the West Park Rovers players will feel if Ridley doesn't play in this match? Do you think they will all be disappointed if she leaves the team? Can you imagine why she wouldn't want to play for *the best all girls team in the county*? Can you predict what will happen in chapter 4 if you choose this option?

Option 2: Kitty says she is not going to play for the team any more. She is upset with Liam for not telling her about the moves he practised with Ridley. She says that Ridley is taking over the team and controlling everything – including Liam.

Do you understand how Kitty feels? Do you think that she should still stay with the team even though she is upset by Liam and Ridley? Do you think she is right about Ridley wanting to take control of the team or do you think she is just cross with Liam? Can you predict what will happen in chapter 4 if you choose this option?

Option 3: Micky is angry that Liam and Ridley have gone behind his back. He strips Liam of the captaincy and drops him to the subs bench. Liam is furious, but Ridley tells him to stay calm. She has a plan. She 's going to take over the team.

Do you think Micky would do this? Can you think of any reason why he would punish Liam and not Ridley? Can you imagine what Ridley's plan might be? Can you predict what will happen in chapter 4 if you choose this option?

Writing Activities

Imagine you are Kitty. Write your account of the game between West Park Rovers and Weldon Wanderers, focusing on what happens when Liam and Ridley carry out their new kick off moves. Make sure you describe how you feel when you expect to get the ball passed to you, but instead of getting the ball to pass back to Liam, you are ignored.

Imagine you are Micky. Write your account of the game between West Park Rovers and Weldon Wanderers, describing how you feel at half-time and what you say to the team before they go back on the pitch. Describe what happens in the second half and your mixed feelings at the end of the match about the team winning.

Ridley says, *“Playing football should be fun”*. Write a list of at least six questions you might like to ask a professional footballer. Include a question about when they find football fun and when they find it more serious. Ask them how they feel when their team wins and how they feel when they lose. Ask them how they feel if they play well but lose – or play badly and win! Give your questions to a class mate so they can answer your questions as they think a professional footballer might answer them.

Do you know anything about football tactics? Write a description of your favourite football tactic, or tactic in another sport. If you don't know about football tactics, use books in your library or the Internet to find out about them, and then write a description of the tactic you like best.

Ridley is very fit and takes playing football very seriously. What sort of daily fitness regime do you think she might follow? Plan a realistic daily fitness program for Ridley. Remember she has to go to school for most of the day.

Look at the options at the end of chapter 3. Write the opening sentence of chapter 4 for each of these options. Remember to make your opening exciting, dramatic or intriguing so as to pull your readers into the story.

What do you think are the main qualities of a good goalkeeper? What sort of practice would you need to do to stop goals getting into your net? Write a practice plan that would-be goalkeepers would find useful to follow in their training.

If you had a choice, would you want to be the goalkeeper, a striker, a midfielder or a defender? Explain your reasons.

Other Extension Activities

Art Activities

Draw a design for an engraving to go on a football cup that is going to be awarded to the winning team at the end of the final game.

Discussion Activities

“Playing football should be fun, right?” said Ridley. Do you agree? Do you think sport is always fun or does it have to be serious sometimes? In a small group, discuss this question.

Research Activities

Using your school library, find a non-fiction book about football or some other sport. Read it to find out the rules of the game, the tactics used and the skills required.

Using the Internet, research the question: Why is it important to exercise, even if you don't like playing sports? Write four fact sentences that answer this question.

Key Words and Phrases

Here is a list of challenging or potentially unfamiliar vocabulary used in Chapter 3 of *Ridley's Rovers*: **clinching**, **last minute**, **flattered**, **impressive**, **rush of nerves**, **take it in my stride**, **take a breather**, **lofted the ball**.

You may wish to explore this vocabulary with your pupils, to aid their understanding of the chapter and enhance, or 'up level', the quality of their own writing.

You might like to use the boxed versions of the words below on your 'working wall' or literacy display!

clinching

last minute

flattered

impressive

rush of nerves

**take it in
my stride**

**take a
breather**

lofted the ball

Worksheet: Word Definitions

Look at the following words. If you are not sure of their meaning, check their definitions in a dictionary.

stunning, solo, flatter, dazzle, exploit, confident, clinch, defend

Put each word in the space next to the correct definition. There is more than one definition for some words!

1. A performance done by one person alone _____
2. Sure that something will happen _____
3. Extremely beautiful _____
4. Cause someone to be blinded for a moment _____
5. Praise in an exaggerated way to please someone

6. Something daring or interesting _____
7. Taking action to protect yourself or your position _____
8. Settle something finally _____
9. Shocking, surprising _____
10. Impress greatly _____
11. Someone who is sure of themselves and their abilities

Answers

1. A performance done by one person alone SOLO
2. Sure that something will happen CONFIDENT
3. Extremely beautiful STUNNING
4. Cause someone to be blinded for a moment DAZZLE
5. Praise in an exaggerated way to please someone FLATTER
6. Something daring or interesting EXPLOIT
7. Taking action to protect yourself or your position DEFEND
8. Settle something finally CLINCH
9. Shocking, surprising STUNNING
10. Impress greatly DAZZLE
11. Someone who is sure of themselves and their abilities CONFIDENT

Glossary

dummied – pretended

header – hitting the ball with the head

mid-table – ranked in the middle of a table or list of competing teams

quarter-final – games that involve the last eight winning teams in a competition

unmarked – not followed or shadowed by an opposing team member

Picture Resources



Liam and Ridley work brilliantly together on the pitch. Look closely at the picture here. What do you think the number 15 in the yellow shirt is shouting?

How important do you think it is to communicate well with each other on the football pitch?

In this chapter, Liam and Ridley keep their practice a secret from the rest of the team. These pictures show people sharing secrets.



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Do you think Liam and Ridley should have kept their practice a secret?

When do you think it is OK to keep a secret? Think of three examples of good secrets to keep and three examples of secrets that you should not keep. Give reasons for your answers.

Do you think that the secret being shared in the top picture is OK to keep?

How about the bottom picture? How can you tell?

Resources

Websites

Improve your skills and perfect your passing technique by nailing the curled pass:

http://www.arsenal.com/assets/files/documents/feb_14/gun_1391601124_97_Skill_School_mdAE.pdf

Kelly Smith is a legend in women's football. She is all-time top goal scorer for England and won the Women's FA Cup an incredible six times with Arsenal Ladies. Find out more about her story:

<https://www.sse.co.uk/about-us/sponsorship/sport/kelly-smith#item1>

The Euro 2016 Championships were full of surprises! Can you spot the ball in key moments playing this competition?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/quizzes/spot-the-ball-quiz-46>

Note to teachers: Every effort has been made by the Publishers to ensure that these websites are suitable for children, that they are of the highest educational value, and that they contain no inappropriate or offensive material. However, because of the nature of the Internet, it is impossible to guarantee that the content of these sites will not be altered. We strongly advise that Internet access is supervised by a responsible adult.

Books

Do Goalkeepers Wear Tiaras? (Girls FC series) by Helena Pielichaty. Walker Books, 2009

Football (Sports Skills) by Clive Gifford. Franklin Watts, 2015