

Pants on Fire!

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.
- **Music, Art and Drama Activities:** Some ideas and inspiration for extension activities in the subjects of music, art and drama are provided in this section.
- **Puzzles:** This section provides printable puzzles for students to complete. Answers are also provided.
- **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 that students might find useful.

Text Questions

Chapter 3: Run!

1. Did you enjoy reading chapter 3 of *Pants on Fire*? Which bits of the story did you like best? Did any parts of the story make you laugh?
2. What do you think about the character of Nisa? How does she help Alfie? Would the story be as good if Nisa wasn't there?
3. Why does Nisa shout, "*There's the unicorn!*"?
4. What does Chuck's assistant mistake a dinner lady for? What might this tell us about the assistant? What might this tell us about the dinner lady's appearance?
TEACHER NOTE: e.g. the dinner lady may have had blonde hair and been wearing a white uniform.
5. Do you think Alfie wanted to be interviewed by Chuck Dingle? How can you tell?
6. Why doesn't Nisa want Alfie to tell a lie on television?
7. What did you think when Nisa said, "*I was in the precinct with my mum yesterday, and I didn't see any shop like that*"? What shop is Nisa referring to?
8. Which country does the tall man with the tidy moustache come from? How do you know this?
9. What does the tall man with the tidy moustache say about the bravest monarch of France? Did you find this amusing? Why? Can you think of another word for 'monarch'?

10. Does Alfie like being thought of as 'Alfred the King of France'? How do you know this?
11. Why does the tall man get cross with Nisa? Go back to the story to find out?
12. What does the tall man mean by the words '*nobleman*' and '*commoner*'? Do we normally use these words to describe people today?
13. What do you think the tall man means when he says, "*I would not presume to ask...*"? Can you think of another word that you could use instead of '*presume*'?
14. Alfie lies about being the world's top archaeologist. Do you know what an archaeologist does?
15. What word does Alfie use to explain how the fossilized dinosaur has come to life? Go back to the story to find out.
TEACHER NOTE: miraculously
16. When does the tall man realize that Alfie is not the King of France?
17. What kind of dinosaur do Alfie and Nisa see rattling around in the middle of the road? Could you picture this scene in your imagination?
18. Why does Chuck think he is about to get the best story of his life? Go back to the story to find out. Does he get it? What happens?
19. Triceratops is a herbivore. What do herbivores eat? What would an animal that only ate meat be called, and why would this be more dangerous for Alfie and Nisa?

Pants on Fire! by Tommy Donbavand



20. Why does Nisa *want* Alfie to tell a lie? Go back to the story to find out.
21. Chuck Dingle, *grinned into the camera lens, dazzling Alfie with his bright pearly-whites*. What are his *pearly-whites*? Did you like this description of Chuck Dingle's smile?
22. Why does the cameraman start laughing? Go back to the story to find out. Do you think Chuck Dingle found this funny? Why not? How do you think Chuck Dingle felt at this point in the chapter?
23. What is a Chihuahua?
24. How does the author build the reader's interest and curiosity in the last few lines of chapter 3? How did you feel when you got to the end of the chapter?

Making the Choice and Voting

Why did Nisa and Alfie stop so suddenly?

Choice 1: The shop had disappeared.

Would you be surprised if the shop had disappeared? Why, or why not? How would this affect Alfie and Nisa? Can you predict how the story will develop if the author writes chapter 4 based on this option? Can you think what he can do to get Alfie out of his predicament?

Choice 2: A group of Wizards was blocking their path.

Can you imagine why the wizards might be outside the shop? Can you imagine how they look and what they are feeling when they see Alfie and Nisa? Do you think the wizards could be a help or a hindrance to Alfie? Try to predict what will happen in chapter 4 if you choose this option.

Choice 3: Another Nisa and Alfie were standing outside the shop?

Can you imagine how you would feel if you came across another person exactly like you? Can you imagine what you would do or say in this situation? Can you predict what Alfie and Nisa will do? How do you think this might have happened?

Which choice would make the most entertaining plotline for chapter 4?

Which option do you think would be the best or worst for Alfie?

Writing Activities

Write an extra scene for chapter 3 showing what happened next to Chuck Dingle. Follow on from the part where he says:

“But... there was a d–dinosaur... a–a skeleton...” Chuck barked, his bouncy blonde quiff clashing horribly with his angry purple face.

Make your writing as entertaining as possible.

A Chihuahua is a very small dog. Using the Internet, find out about this dog and then answer the following questions. Write your answers as full sentences.

Which country does the Chihuahua come from?

What are the main features of this breed of dog?

Why do you think some people prefer small dogs like Chihuahuas?

Think of a fourth option for the end of chapter 3 and then, based on this idea, write a brief outline of what you would like to happen in the next chapter.

Look at the options at the end of chapter 3 of *Pants on Fire!* With a partner, discuss what you think the author will do in chapter 4 for each of these options. Choose your best ideas and write a brief outline of what you think should happen in chapter 4 for each of the options.

Pants on Fire! by Tommy Donbavand



The following words were used in chapter 3. Do you know what they mean? Find out and then write your own interesting sentences using each of these words: **foreign, gesturing, glorious, business, presume, scolded, weird.**

Pants on Fire! by Tommy Donbavand

Music, Art and Drama Activities

Draw a caricature of the tall man with the moustache. Make sure you know what a caricature is before you start! Write a caption to go with your picture.

Could you act like a King of France? Try moving about, behaving and speaking like a monarch. Could you react to the King like a commoner? What would you do if you met a King? In a small group have some kings and some commoners and see how you behave towards each other.

Listen to the musical story of *Peter and the Wolf*. What is the story about? What is the moral of this story? Compose your own piece of music to accompany your favourite scene from *Pants on Fire!* Think about how the characters are feeling at the time, think about any action that takes place in the scene and think about the surroundings.

What is your favourite dinosaur? Imagine what it would be like if it miraculously came alive. Draw a picture of the dinosaur and write a caption describing this prehistoric animal.

Pants on Fire! by Tommy Donbavand



Turn your favourite scene from chapter 3 into a play script. Make sure you set it out in the correct way, with characters' names and stage directions etc. Choose some friends or classmates to act out your scene with you. You will need to practise reading from your play script first.

Pants on Fire! by Tommy Donbavand

Puzzle (page 2 of 2)

NIDNER YDAL

		15			
--	--	----	--	--	--

1			
---	--	--	--

YRRAB KEHMADC

		4		
--	--	---	--	--

	19						
--	----	--	--	--	--	--	--

RM SETBAST

--	--

	10				12	
--	----	--	--	--	----	--

GENTASWEN

				7				
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--

The highlighted letters make a special phrase. Write the letters in the boxes below and then work out the phrase.

--	--	--	--

1 2 3 4 ,

--	--	--	--

5 6 7 8 ,

--	--	--	--	--

9 10 11 12 13

--	--

14 15

--	--	--	--

16 17 18 19 !

Puzzle Clues

1. The reporter with the blonde quiff
2. Alfie's terrifying teacher
3. The hero of the story
4. The person filming Chuck
5. The creature that appeared after Alfie's first lie
6. Alfie's best friend
7. The panting pooch
8. The dinosaur skeleton
9. The person Chuck Dingle's assistant thought was a unicorn
10. The millionaire footballer
11. The science teacher at Alfie's school
12. The person who would not sell *Mind Slap* to Alfie

Puzzle ANSWERS

Complete this double puzzle containing character names from *Pants on Fire!* Complete the phrase on the next page using the letters in shaded boxes.

HCUKC GIDLEN

C	H	U	C	K
---	---	---	---	---

D	I	N	G	L	E
---	---	---	---	---	---

SIMS ABE VAHEY

M	I	S	S
---	---	---	---

B	E	A
---	---	---

H	A	Y	V	E
---	---	---	---	---

EFALI RACHDIRS

A	L	F	I	E
---	---	---	---	---

R	I	C	H	A	R	D	S
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

NACERAMA

C	A	M	E	R	A	M	A	N
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

CORUNIN

U	N	I	C	O	R	N
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SANI

N	I	S	A
---	---	---	---

CHUAHAUHI

C	H	I	H	U	A	H	U	A
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

CERRITAOPST

T	R	I	C	E	R	A	T	O	P	S
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Pants on Fire! by Tommy Donbavand

Puzzle (page 2 of 2)

NIDNER YDAL

D	I	¹⁵ N	N	E	R
---	---	-----------------	---	---	---

¹ L	A	D	Y
----------------	---	---	---

YRRAB KEHMADC

B	A	⁴ R	R	Y
---	---	----------------	---	---

D	¹⁹ E	C	K	H	A	M
---	-----------------	---	---	---	---	---

RM SETBAST

M	R
---	---

B	¹⁰ A	S	S	E	¹² T	T
---	-----------------	---	---	---	-----------------	---

GENTASWEN

N	E	W	S	⁷ A	G	E	N	T
---	---	---	---	----------------	---	---	---	---

The highlighted letters make a special phrase. Write the letters in the boxes below and then work out the phrase.

L	I	A	R
1	2	3	4

L	I	A	R
5	6	7	8

P	A	N	T	S
9	10	11	12	13

O	N
14	15

F	I	R	E	!
16	17	18	19	

Pants on Fire! by Tommy Donbavand

Picture Resources

This is a picture of a dinosaur skeleton.



How would you feel if you saw this walking towards you in the street?

How do you think people would have reacted if Chuck Dingle had managed to film the moving Triceratops skeleton, and show it on television?

How do you think this dinosaur protected itself?

Pants on Fire! by Tommy Donbavand

Picture Resources

This is picture of a Triceratops.



Which modern animal does the Triceratops remind you of?

How many horns does the Triceratops have?

What do you think the wide bone plate behind the dinosaur's head was for?

Picture Resources

This picture shows the entrance to the 'Dinosaurs Live!' exhibition at the National Science Centre in Kuala Lumpur. The exhibition featured 30 life-size dinosaurs, and an activity where visitors could try to outrun a dinosaur!



Have you ever been to a museum or science centre like this?

Are there any dinosaur exhibitions local to you?

What types of dinosaurs can be seen in this picture?

Pants on Fire! by Tommy Donbavand

Resources

Websites:

Natural History Museum: Dino Directory: Triceratops

<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/life/dinosaurs-other-extinct-creatures/dino-directory/triceratops.html>

BBC Nature: Triceratops

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/life/Triceratops>

National Geographic: Triceratops Horridus

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/prehistoric/triceratops-horridus/>

BBC Learning Zone: Lara's Little Lie

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/ask-lara-laras-little-lie/13486.html>

Ithink: This website contains a range of free interactive and digital resources to encourage discussion between children on the issues of Citizenship and PSHE.

<http://www.ithink.org.uk/>

Kids' Health: Telling Lies

<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetailsKids.aspx?p=335&np=287&id=1485>

BBC Ethics Guide: Lying

http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/lying/lying_1.shtml

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.