

# Activities



LEVEL 1

## Tricks

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Genre Humour

Values autonomy, initiative, ingenuity, self-esteem, overcoming adversity

## Chapter 2. For My Next Trick...

One way or another, Colin is going to have to face the evil wizard Grimdok the Devastating. What will Grimdok think of Colin, the villagers' new champion?

### 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

# INDEX

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
- What's happened so far?
- Plural nouns



## TALK

Space for debate



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

- Discuss the options
- Discuss the story so far



## EXPLORE

Creative study



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

- Wordsearch

## 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 of Chapter 1. (Colin, who gives magic shows in front of his house, has been kidnapped by a giant and taken to Normshire to fight an evil wizard called Grimdok.) Read up to *...to fight this monster*. Ask a volunteer to describe the arrival of Grimdok in the village.

2

Ask: How do you think the villagers felt when they heard the bell and saw the smoke? (terrified) Why do you think Grimdok appears in this way? (to create a sense of drama and fear) Allow time for the children to describe how they would like to be announced. (drums, fireworks, perhaps)

3

Ask a volunteer to describe Grimdok. Ask: What does 'skull-like' look like? (white, thin, big eyes) What impression do 'spindly' and 'snakeskin cloak' give? (that he is perhaps like a spider or a snake) Read up to *"As impressive as this."* Why does Colin say *"Oh, I'm only a kid"*? (He wants Grimdok to ignore him.)

4

Ask: What does Colin mean by "champion is a strong word"? (He thinks Logan is making him sound too impressive.) Locate words that describe how Grimdok talks, for example: 'rasped', 'spine-chilling laugh', 'sniffed', 'hissed', 'like ice being scraped from a window'. Agree that he sounds evil.

5

How powerful does Colin sound in this section? Point out 'gulped', 'trembled', 'tried to look scary' and 'cool ones'. Agree that he sounds like a child. Read to the end. Ask the children to imagine – or draw – Grimdok creating the fiery knight. Ask: Why does Grimdok sneer at Colin? (He thinks Colin is ridiculous.)

6

Ask: How can Colin try to beat Grimdok? (He is going to pretend to be a great magician; he will create the illusion of someone mighty and magical.) How does he do this? (By pretending to look down on Grimdok, by pretending to be very confident.)



**READ**

Reading lab

Name: .....

## Reading comprehension

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

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1 Describe Grimdok's arrival in the village.

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2 Why does Grimdok arrive in this way?

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3 Find two adjectives that describe Grimdok.

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**READ**

Reading lab

Name: .....

4

What impression do you get of Grimdok from the words 'rasped', 'spine-chilling' and 'hissed'?

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5

Why does Grimdok sneer at Colin?

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6

Why does Colin pretend that he is better than Grimdok?

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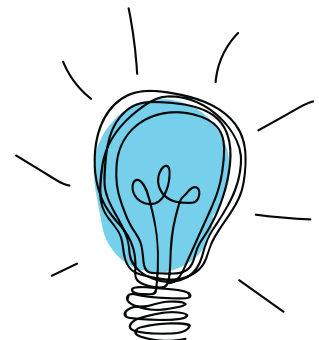
**WRITE**

Writing workshop

Name: .....

## Inspire words

Explore some of the challenging or potentially unfamiliar vocabulary in this chapter to improve children's understanding and enhance the quality of their own writing.

**bitter****fiery****peeped****rasped****sneered****spindly**

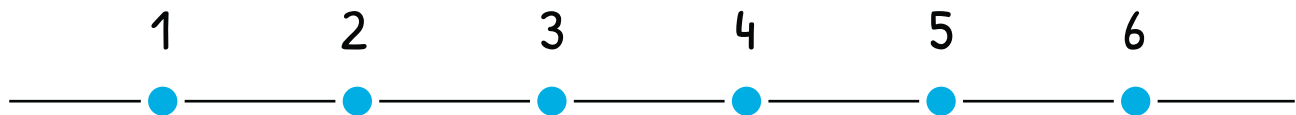
**WRITE**

Writing workshop

Name: .....

## What's happened so far?

Put the following sentences in order, according to when they happened in the chapter.



- Logan told Grimdok that Colin was the villagers' champion.
- Colin prepared to perform a trick for Grimdok.
- Colin was rude about Grimdok's magic.
- Grimdok said that he did not think Colin had any magic.
- Grimdok appeared in purple smoke.
- Grimdok conjured up a knight made of fire.

**WRITE**

Writing workshop

Name: .....

**Plural nouns**

Choose the correct plural noun within each group and write it on the right.

**jinx:**

jinxs

jinxes

**potion:**

potiones

potions

**witch:**

witchs

witches

**trick:**

trickes

tricks

**giant:**

giants

giantes

**fairy:**

fairies

fairys

**box:**

box's

boxes

**glass:**

glasss

glasses

**dish:**

dishes

dishs

**body:**

bodys

bodies

**class:**

classes

class's





Name: .....

## Discuss the options

Discuss in class which of the three options you find most interesting to continue the story and why. Here's a reminder of the options and some key points for each one.

What does Colin pull out from his pocket?

A

A can filled with inflatable snakes

The village seems to be very old, so perhaps the villagers will be impressed by this kind of trick. But will Grimdok? It does not seem as scary as the fiery knight!

B

A rabbit

Where might Colin have got a rabbit from? Do you think it would be a real rabbit or a trick one? Will anyone be scared by the appearance of a rabbit?

C

His empty hand

If Colin cannot pull anything out of his pocket, what do you think will happen? Will Grimdok let him try again? Perhaps Colin will be able to talk himself out of trouble!

## Discuss the story so far

In pairs or a small group, discuss what has happened in the story so far. You could use your Write! worksheet to help your discussion.

Do you agree on the key events? Can you predict what might happen in the rest of the story? How do you think the main character, Colin, is feeling about the events so far? Should Colin have ever gone off with Logan in the first place?



# EXPLORE

Creative study

Name: .....

## Wordsearch

Find and circle the magic words in this wordsearch.

I	N	I	L	S	P	E	L	L	R	L	D
T	E	T	R	J	I	N	X	S	R	A	N
E	U	H	T	B	E	R	O	I	N	U	W
W	S	D	K	C	I	R	T	N	T	C	E
T	E	C	C	S	E	N	P	O	A	H	K
A	Y	T	I	G	O	A	R	I	S	A	I
T	L	E	G	O	N	I	L	T	R	N	D
U	O	R	A	S	E	C	H	O	E	T	R
I	R	S	M	D	A	I	W	P	A	R	A
A	V	L	I	M	R	G	S	L	H	E	Z
O	E	E	N	E	O	A	N	O	O	E	I
R	E	R	T	E	E	M	H	E	E	T	W

- chant
- jinx
- magic
- magician
- potion
- spell
- trick
- wizard

J L n S  
e r A Z  
B g

# ANSWERS

Document for the teacher

## Reading comprehension (pp. 4–5)

1. There are five rings of a bell then a cloud of purple smoke.
2. He wants to fill the villagers with awe and fear so they are scared before they've even seen any magic.
3. Spindly; skull-like
4. That he is evil and snakelike; that he is old and ill.
5. He thinks Colin is beneath him and ridiculous.
6. So that his magic looks as if it is easy for him. To make Grimdok begin to think that Colin really is a magician.

## What's happened so far? (p. 7)

1. Grimdok appeared in purple smoke.
2. Logan told Grimdok that Colin was the villagers' champion.
3. Grimdok said that he did not think Colin had any magic.
4. Grimdok conjured up a knight made of fire.
5. Colin was rude about Grimdok's magic.
6. Colin prepared to perform a trick for Grimdok.

## Plural nouns (p. 8)

- jinxes
- potions
- witches
- tricks
- giants

- fairies
- boxes
- glasses
- dishes
- bodies
- classes

## Wordsearch (p. 10)

I	N	I	L	S	P	E	L	L	R	L	D
T	E	T	R	J	I	N	X	S	R	A	N
E	U	H	T	B	E	R	O	I	N	U	W
W	S	D	K	C	I	R	T	N	T	C	E
T	E	C	C	S	E	N	P	O	A	H	K
A	Y	T	I	G	O	A	R	I	S	A	I
T	L	E	G	O	N	I	L	T	R	N	D
U	O	R	A	S	E	C	H	O	E	T	R
I	R	S	M	D	A	I	W	P	A	R	A
A	V	L	I	M	R	G	S	L	H	E	Z
O	E	E	N	E	O	A	N	O	O	E	I
R	E	R	T	E	E	M	H	E	E	T	W