

English Planning and Ideas



Week Commencing: 15th June 2020

Year Group: 4

Genre: Character Description

This week, we are going to continue to use the resources on the National Oak Academy. Each lesson will include watching videos and completing the online activities that follow. For some of the activities, you will need pen and paper.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Area of Learning	Fact Retrieval	Inference	Identifying Key Features	Subordinate Clauses	Writing a Character Description
Activity	<p>Starter: Spelling Shed https://play.edshed.com/login</p> <p>Main:</p> <p>Here is the link for today's lesson:</p> <p>https://classroom.thenationalacademy/lessons/character-description-reading-comprehension-fact-retrieval/activities/2</p> <p>All of the resources that you might need for this lesson are below this plan.</p>	<p>Starter: Spelling Shed https://play.edshed.com/login</p> <p>Main:</p> <p>Here is the link for today's lesson:</p> <p>https://classroom.thenationalacademy/lessons/character-description-reading-comprehension-inference</p> <p>All of the resources that you might need for this lesson are below this plan</p>	<p>Starter: Spelling Shed https://play.edshed.com/login</p> <p>Main:</p> <p>Here is the link for today's lesson:</p> <p>https://classroom.thenationalacademy/lessons/character-description-identifying-the-features-of-a-text-4b3bae/activities/2</p> <p>All of the resources that you might need for this lesson are below this plan</p>	<p>Starter: Spelling Shed https://play.edshed.com/login</p> <p>Main:</p> <p>Here is the link for today's lesson:</p> <p>https://classroom.thenationalacademy/lessons/character-description-spag-focus-subordinate-clauses/activities/2</p> <p>All of the resources that you might need for this lesson are below this plan</p>	<p>Starter: Spelling Shed https://play.edshed.com/login</p> <p>Main:</p> <p>Here is the link for today's lesson:</p> <p>https://classroom.thenationalacademy/lessons/character-description-write-a-character-description-bceff8/activities/2</p> <p><i>We would love to see your finished character descriptions. You can send us it by emailing it to: oxcloseyear4@durhamlearning.net</i></p>

The Dreaming Chupacabra

Lurking upon the misty moors, obscured by tooth-shaped boulders, lives the Dreaming Chupacabra. Standing at only 3 feet tall, at a distance it is often mistaken for a child but up close its steel-grey, wart-ridden skin leaves no doubt. Due to its allergy to sunlight, these creatures are nocturnal and prefer to sleep during the day and for some periods in the summer they can sleep for up to 15 hours. Because of its thick, rubbery hide, the creature is well protected against the cold and prefers cool, damp temperatures.



Round, saucer eyes stare unblinkingly whilst pointed ears protrude from the top of its head. They have impeccable hearing like bats and they can listen for a range of 1 mile in any direction. Upon its head, wisps of matted hair grow in sporadic clumps which look like tufts of grass and reveal patches of pale, peeling skin. Some have pug noses; others have ugly snouts that hook round towards their hairy chins. Thin lips open into a wide toothless smile from which a black tongue resides. Bony shoulders lead into long, dangling arms that fall past its knobby knees.

Although small in height, this agile creature can run very fast (up to 20mph) for extended periods of time; it is particularly good at moving swiftly over marshes and bog-mosses due to its wide, splayed feet. Its razor-sharp claws are trowels which they use in order to burrow into hillsides, creating vast warrens underground, allowing them to move about the moorland easily.

Preferring to live in groups, they carry each other if they get tired and protect their young inside a small pouch. Because they are afraid of heights, they will never venture up into the trees so they prefer to have their flat feet on the ground. Even though these creatures look quite outlandish, they are not harmful to humans and due to their lack of teeth, they are strictly vegetarian. Surprisingly, they gain sufficient nutrients from sucking the moisture from plants such as lush ferns and arum lilies.

Often quite mischievous, these creatures like to play pranks in order to entertain themselves and they particularly enjoy teasing unsuspecting tourists - the younger and more innocent the better! From blocking countryside footpaths to making rustling sounds in the hedgerows, they feed off a human's nervous energy. Watching lost, frustrated families try to navigate their way through the monotonous moorlands offers them hours of endless entertainment.

Now have a go at answering the following questions:

1. Where does the Dreaming Chupacabra live?

2. According to the text, why do these creatures prefer to sleep during the day?

3. How tall is the Dreaming Chupacabra?



4. Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false.

The Dreaming Chupacabra:	True	False
Never ventures up trees		
Can't dig burrows		
Prefer to live on their own		
Is a vegetarian		

5. Complete the table to include two facts about the Dreaming Chupacabra's appearance and personality.

Appearance	Personality
1.	1.
2.	2.



Answer the following questions:

1. What evidence in the text suggests that the Dreaming Chupacabra doesn't like to be seen?

2. Why do you think people might find the Dreaming Chupacabra scary to look at? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.

3. How do you know a Dreaming Chupacabra is quite athletic?



4. Preferring to live in groups, they carry each other if they get tired and protect their young inside a small pouch. This suggests that...

- a) They are lazy.
- b) They are caring.
- c) They are lonely

5. What impressions do you get of the Dreaming Chupacabra? Give two impressions, supporting your answer with evidence from the text.



Key Features

- Physical & Emotional characteristics (appearance/personality)
- Commas for clarity
- Expanded noun phrases
- Coordinating and subordinating conjunctions
- Subordinate clauses
- Figurative language
- Fronted adverbial phrases
- Parenthesis



Your turn...

Round, saucer eyes stare unblinkingly whilst pointed ears protrude from the top of its head. They have impeccable hearing like bats and they can listen for a range of 1 mile in any direction. Upon its head, wisps of matted hair grow in sporadic clumps which look like tufts of grass and reveal patches of pale, peeling skin. Some have pug noses; others have ugly snouts that hook round towards their hairy chins. Thin lips open into a wide toothless smile from which a black tongue resides. Bony shoulders lead into long, dangling arms that fall past its knobby knees.



Although small in height, this agile creature can run very fast (up to 20mph) for extended periods of time; it is particularly good at moving swiftly over marshes and bog-mosses due to its wide, splayed feet. Its razor-sharp claws are trowels which they use in order to burrow into hillsides, creating vast warrens underground, allowing them to move about the moorland easily.



Answer the following questions:

1. **Find and copy** two examples of expanded noun phrases in the second paragraph.

1. _____

2. _____

2. **Identify** an example of each of the following types of figurative language:

a) Similes _____

b) Metaphor _____

c) Alliteration _____

6



3. **Find and copy** an example of parenthesis within the text.

4. Read the following sentences and **identify** the **fronted adverbials**.

Upon its head, wisps of matted hair grow in sporadic clumps which look like tufts of grass and reveal patches of pale peeling skin.

Lurking upon the misty moors, obscured by tooth-shaped boulders, lives the Dreaming Chupacabra.

7



5. Read the sentence and identify whether the conjunction used is coordinating or subordinating.

Sentence	Coordinating conjunction	Subordinating conjunction
Because they are afraid of heights, they will never venture up into the trees.		
They carry each other if they get tired and protect their young inside a small pouch.		

6. Draw a picture of what you imagine the Dreaming Chupacabra to look like. Write a caption underneath.

8



Now have a go at answering the following questions:

- Underline the subordinate clause in the sentence below.
 - Even though he had little patience, Robert enjoyed chess.
 - Polly's hockey skills were good although she had not been playing for long.
 - They finished the walk, which seemed never-ending

2. Complete the sentence by adding a subordinate clause to follow the main clause? The first one has been done for you.

Main clause	Subordinate clause
The creature fell asleep	after he had eaten his tea.
The Dreaming Chupacabra like to play pranks	
These creatures are vegetarian	
Its razor-sharp claws are trowels	

Subordinating conjunctions	
Although	Even though
As	Whereas
After	In addition
Because	Until
Before	When
Since	While
Whilst	Despite



3. Extend these sentences by adding a subordinate clause to the beginning. The first one has been done for you.

- After the tourists had left, the Dreaming Chupacabra ate his supper.
- _____, the Dreaming Chupacabra teased the tourists.
- _____, the creatures never venture up into the trees.

4. Finish off the sentences by adding more detail to these subordinate clauses:

- Because they have impeccable hearing like bats, _____.
- Although they are small in height, _____.
- Before the Dreaming Chupacabra eats supper, _____.



Friday 19th June 2020

VOCABULARY you could use:



lurking	prefer	mischievous
skin	agile	monotonous
creature	nocturnal	slender
protect	venture	surroundings
protrude	outlandish	dangerous
impeccable	adapted	innocent
sporadic	predator	hunt
reveal	prey	curious

To be successful...



Feature	Example
Physical Characteristics (Appearance)	steel-grey, wart-ridden skin
Emotional Characteristics (Personality)	Often quite mischievous...
Expanded noun phrases	pale, peeling skin
Coordinating and subordinating conjunctions	because, whilst, due to...
Figurative language	impeccable hearing like bats
Parenthesis	, obscured by tooth-shaped boulders,

Where can I complete further work?

[Classroom Secrets](#) – Free Maths, Reading and Grammar home learning packs and interactive resources for all ages.

[BBC Bitesize Primary](#) – Free learning resources available for KS1 and KS2 across all subjects.

[Oxford Owl](#) – Free eBooks and reading resources available when you create a free login.

[Phonics Play](#) – Subscription service is offering free access to their learning resources during this period. Follow the link for details on how to gain free access.

[Top Marks](#) – Free educational resources and games for English and Maths.

[ICT Games](#) – Free educational resources and games for English and Maths.