

A Free Language and Literacy Resource
based on

Winter Wonderland

as featured in

Booktime Magazine

Suitable for use with a class or book group, this pack contains prompts and questions targeting:

- ✓ Vocabulary
- ✓ Grammar
- ✓ Comprehension
- ✓ Oral Language Development

Read the Winter Wonderland interview with Abi Elphintone as featured on pages 20 and 21 of [Booktime Magazine](#). Can you answer the following questions?

1. Who is the author of The Snow Dragon?
2. Who illustrated the book?
3. Name three of the characters in the book.
4. Find a synonym for seriousness in the text.
5. What is meant by wisdom?
6. How do you gain wisdom?
7. Can you be young and wise?
8. Name an animal with a snout.
9. What is meant by the atmosphere of a story?
10. What do you think Abi means when she talks about the colour palette capturing the atmosphere of the story?
11. Give an example of how an author creates atmosphere in their story.
12. Give an example of how an illustrator might use colour to create an atmosphere.
13. The quote from the Times refers to C.S. Lewis. Do you know anything about C.S. Lewis?
14. Abi uses a word to refer to coming up with an idea. Can you find the word?
15. Find the phrase that means to be in charge?
16. Why is Herbert essential to the story?
17. What does Abi identify as crucial in a children's book?
18. Find the adjectives used to describe the following:
 - ✓ Scotland:
 - ✓ Memories:
19. Write synonyms for each of the adjectives above.
20. Was it easy to bring the Christmas tree home? How do you know?
21. What commonality does the interviewer note between Phoebe and Casper Tock?
22. Describe 2 activities Abi enjoyed during her childhood.
23. In what way does Abi consider nature powerful? Do you agree with her? Why/why not?
24. What does Abi think will prompt children to care for the planet?
25. What word does Abi use to describe books that capture children's imaginations and enthrall them?

In Abi's answer to question 1,

1. Find a word that rhymes with weeks. What does the word you found mean?
2. Find the opposite of go.
3. What is meant by soaring? Name something else that might soar.
4. Find a synonym for first.

Discuss:

What does Abi mean when she says Fiona changed her illustrations to 'lend' the Snow Dragon more gravitas and wisdom? What do we usually mean when we 'lend' something?

As an illustrator, consider how you might achieve the following:

- Lending an old man a look of poverty;
- Lending a dog a sense of ferocity;
- Lending a house an air of neglect.

Here are some things you can lend. What does each phrase mean?

- Lend a hand;
- Lend an ear;
- Lend support.

In Abi's answer to question 2,

1. Find the word for a collection of pieces of writing.
2. Find a synonym for keeping.
3. What word is used to refer to the intrinsic nature of the story?
4. A dachshund is a dog. Name as many other breeds of dogs as you can.

Discuss:

What is meant by acclaimed (as in 'acclaimed authors' in the text)? Can you think of some authors who are in this category?

In Abi's answer to question 3,

1. List 5 verbs used in the paragraph.
2. What words could Abi use instead of 'absolutely' in her answer to the question?
3. What is she referring to when she mentions the glen?
4. What does Abi mean by 'drawn-out stretches of time'?

Discuss:

Abi says her most vivid memories 'centre around' snowy Christmases. What does she mean by centre around? What is our discussion today centring around? What did your last maths lesson centre around? What does your fondest childhood memory centre around?

In Abi's answer to question 4,

1. Find a synonym for link.
2. Find a 1-syllable, 2-syllable, and 3-syllable word.
3. What does the apostrophe represent in I've?
4. What does the apostrophe represent in grandparents' house?

Discuss:

Do you know any stories in which the characters are transported to a magical world?

In Abi's answer to question 5,

1. Find a synonym for thankful.
2. What phrase tells you Abi's status as a writer is important to her?
3. What does Abi tell us her adventures established within her?
4. Can you think of something that is indestructible?

Discuss:

Do you think Abi is happy with the increased use of iPhones and iPads nowadays? Provide reasons for your views.

In Abi's answer to question 6,

1. Find the word that means planning.
2. Find a word that rhymes with skills.
3. Find the word that means precise.
4. Find a 5 syllable word.

Discuss:

Abi talks about channeling fears, possibilities, and thrills into her writing. What is meant by channeling? What hobby do you channel most of your energy into outside of school?

Word Work

How many smaller words can you find in each of the following words? You may jumble the letters up, but you may only use the letters given.

- Wonderful
- Dreamsnatcher
- Atmosphere
- Inhabitants
- Grandparents

| When you think of dragons, what words and images come to mind? | When you think of snow, what words and images come to mind? |
|---|--|
| | |

Thank You

Thank you for downloading this resource from Dumond Education. Please note Dumond Education is not affiliated with Booktime Magazine in any way. We simply see the value of Booktime Magazine as a classroom resource and created some resources based thereon.

In downloading this Dumond Education resource, you are licensed as a single user.

Under your Single User License:

- You may use this resource in a single classroom/multiple classrooms with pupils you teach. If colleagues would like to use Dumond resources, please direct them to dumondeducation.com.
- If mentioning Dumond Education resources on your blog or social media, please link back to dumondeducation.com.
- You may use Dumond Education resources in seminars, teacher training activities, or professional development workshops, provided you acknowledge Dumond Education as the copyright holder and link back to dumondeducation.com.
- You may not remove the Dumond Education name, copyright symbol, or any watermarks name from this resource.
- You may not alter any files. Resources are only editable in the event of an error. Please contact Dumond Education if you find an error.
- You may not sell Dumond Education resources, give Dumond Education resources away for free, or copy Dumond Education resources for unlicensed users. Similarly, you may not obtain Dumond Education resources by any of these methods.

We hope this resource proves very useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries or suggestions. Keep an eye on our website dumondeducation.com for new products and ideas.