

This week's pack supports the Week 6 timetable on Classroom Secrets Kids.

Additional Resources

English – Reading Comprehension – The Lie

Children should read the extract and answer the questions giving as much detail as they can. Any unfamiliar vocabulary should be highlighted and children should be encouraged to discuss its meaning or check using a dictionary.

The answers to the questions are as follows:

1. How would you describe William's mood as he left the Village? Which words give you this idea? **Happy/Jolly/Excited – 'With a wave and a wink'**
2. How does the writer describe the weather on the day that William left? How does that affect the mood of the text? **'It was a balmy afternoon' – this means that it was pleasantly warm and helps evoke an image of a warm and relaxed summer's day.**
3. How is James described to the reader? **He is described as being stronger, broader and more athletic than his brother, and a perfect specimen of a soldier.**
4. What does the word 'conscription' mean? **Compulsory enlistment in the armed forces.**
5. In paragraph eight, the writer doesn't tell us exactly what James is finding. Why do you think that might be? **To confuse the reader, just as James would be confused.**
6. Where did the white feathers first start appearing? **On the shop floor, his bicycle seat and wheel spokes.**
7. What do white feathers symbolise? **Cowardice – being a coward because you hadn't signed up to fight for your country.**
8. Why didn't James sign up at the same time as his brother? **He was only 15, so he was too young to fight.**
9. Some paragraphs are only one sentence long. Why do you think the author did this? **It makes those sentences appear more important as they require a paragraph on their own. The words stand out more and the reader can't help but notice them.**
10. How do you think James felt when he was handed the white feather? Explain why. **Personal response, for example: upset/ashamed/determined/guilty – children must explain why they think this using what they know they know about James.**
11. Do you think James had already considered signing up before the white feather was given to him? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. **Yes. Evidence could include: 'It was getting tedious', 'James dreamt of adventure', 'James longed to be with him'.**