



It's Snow Joke

Author **Sue Mongredien** / Illustrations **Mark Beech** / 64 pages / Book Series **Prince Jake**

Objectives

- To enjoy listening to and understanding the main ideas of a story in English.
- To demonstrate understanding of a variety of words and expressions used throughout the story by using them in related activities.
- To practice pronunciation and intonation skills by acting out short conversations.
- To be able to read and understand parts of the story at both the word level and the sentence level of the text.
- To be able to use imagination and creativity to demonstrate deeper understanding of the story.

Word bank

Key vocabulary

Nouns: snow-plough, sledge, sarget

Verbs: to behave, to get revenge, to set a good example, to warn

Adjectives: naughty, frozen, icy

Key structures

Giving orders using the imperative: "Take aim!.....Fire!", "Hee-e-e-elp!", "No killing at lunchtime, please."

Making suggestions: "Why don't you...", "We could...", "Let's..."

Second conditional: If the roads were covered with lots and lots of snow, then Slavedriver Slater wouldn't be able to drive to the castle.

Tips and ideas

Before reading

- Encourage higher level thinking by getting students to predict the theme of the book from the cover picture and title.
- Elicit lexis related to winter (weather, clothes, sports, etc.).

During reading

- Quick and frequent concept checking questions.
- Eliciting mini summaries from volunteers, ask different students each time and do it after each chapter. Give a

structure for students to follow: "First..., then..., and in the end..."

- Lower order thinking skills: comprehension. Ask students to summarise all the practical jokes Jake, Ned and Petunia play.

After reading

- Apply knowledge of new vocabulary and structures by re-telling the story in small groups.
- Plan specific higher order thinking skills: evaluation. Students judge the main characters' actions - were they just practical jokes or were they dangerous?

Teacher support activities

Great Games: Drawing Lexis

- Put your students into small teams (three is a good number - everyone gets to have a go!) and give them a number from 1 to 5 (the number refers to a chapter in the book).
- The teams have to look through the relevant chapter and choose two or three nouns from the story.
- Teams challenge each other to guess the word: 1 player sees the word chosen by another team and tries to draw it for his/her group.
- The player drawing the word cannot speak, use gestures, letters or numbers.
- The team has 1 minute to guess the word. If they guess correctly, they win 2 points.
- If they cannot guess the word correctly after the minute is up, another team has the chance to guess. If they are right, they win one point.
- The team with the most points wins.

CLIL LINK: Art & Culture

Jake and Ned build a Snow-King in the story, but around the world there are many places where people make incredible things from ice and snow.

Divide your students into groups and get them to choose a country from France, Canada, Japan, USA, Russia, UK, Sweden, Romania (or others) and find out about their ice and snow sculpture traditions.

Ask the children to prepare a presentation (prezi, powerpoint, wallwisher) for the rest of the class with information and images covering the geography, language, traditions and art of the country they have chosen.

Before the presentations, get the students to practise giving the information without reading it from their notes!

English theatre

The royal children play a lot of practical jokes in this story.

Ask your students to choose one practical joke and to think about the following things:

- Who was involved?
- Where did the practical joke take place?
- What did they use to play the practical joke?
- Did anyone get hurt?
- Did anyone get into trouble?
- Did the practical joke make people laugh?

Ask them to think what the characters said before, during and after the practical joke.

For example: "Hey, Jake, who's bag is that?" / "It's the prime Minister's...I know Ned, let's fill the bag with snow!" / "Madam, don't forget your bag". "Thank you Jake...urgh!! What?...Who?...Boys! ...Ha! Ha! Ha!!"

Now ask groups to role-play the practical joke.