



ENGLISH READERS EDELVIVES



PRINCE JAKE

# Swords and Secrets

Sue Mongredien  
Mark Beech

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Illustrations  
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# before reading

- 1 The title of the story about Prince Jake is *Swords and Secrets*. Can you **say** the title? **Look** at an on-line dictionary to find out how to pronounce *Sword* – it's tricky because the "w" is silent! Do you know any more words with silent letters?

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- 2 **Look** at the picture on the front cover of the book. **Tick** the answer you think is correct.

Jake is holding a...

stick.

sword.

snake.

Who is with Prince Jake?

His class-mates.

His brother  
and sister.

His friends.

What do you think the royal children are doing?

They're going  
to carnival.

They're fighting  
in a war.

They're fighting  
robbers.

- 3 We can see a *sword* in the picture on the cover but what *secrets* do you think there are in the royal castle? **Tick** the best options.

	Yes	No	I don't know
Frightening ghosts			
Hidden tunnels			
Lost princesses			
Crazy soldiers			
Criminal plans			

4 **Put** these words into the columns.

blackboard boring brave castle champion enemy  
history mercy servant sword-fight robber  
schoolroom roller-skate throne trouble daydream

Words I know	Words I'm not sure of	Words I don't know

Now **look** in a dictionary to find out the meaning of the words you didn't know.

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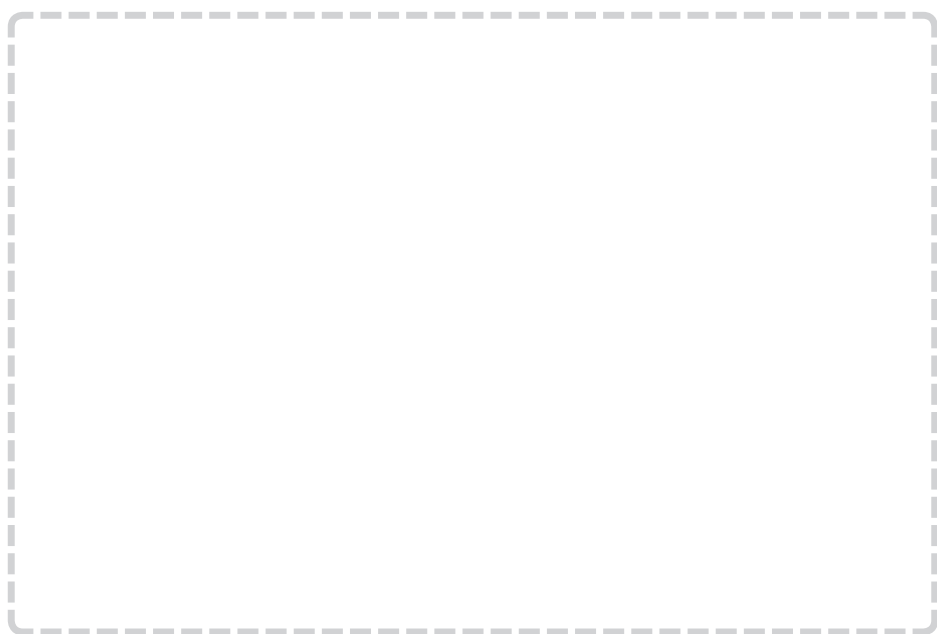
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- 5 **Look** again at the words in exercise 4. The word “daydream” means to spend time thinking about something nice, especially when you have more serious things to do. Jake daydreams a lot. Can you **draw** a picture of his daydreams? Get ideas from the other words in the list in activity 4.



- 6 The royal children discovered a secret room in the castle. Can you **draw** what you think they find there?



7

**Guess** what the story is about by choosing the end of the sentence.  
**Check** your answers after reading the story.

Jake was very excited because he was going to learn...

- to ride a horse.
- to fight with a sword.
- to play tennis.

The royal castle was having an exhibition of...

- expensive paintings.
- cheese and bread.
- swords and armour.

Jake discovered a secret room...

- behind the most expensive painting.
- under the king's throne!
- in his own room.

Jake takes a special sword to...

- frighten some robbers.
- fight his brother and sister.
- fight a pack of wolves.



# during reading

## Chapter 1, 2 and 3

- 1 In Chapter 1 the royal children are in the schoolroom. How are they feeling? **Read** these sentences and **choose** the best option.

In the dream, Jake was feeling \_\_\_\_\_ when he was fighting with the enemy.

- scared
- brave
- tired

Jake's teacher, the Prune, makes class \_\_\_\_\_.

- interesting
- unbearable
- uninteresting

The Prune is \_\_\_\_\_ with Jake's behaviour in class.

- shocked
- happy
- unhappy

Jake was \_\_\_\_\_ about the sword-fighting class.

- excited
- nervous
- bored

Jake thinks he will be \_\_\_\_\_ at sword-fighting.

- decent
- good
- bad

- 2 Jake uses his ruler as a sword to fight with Princess Petunia in class. **Think** of some other things you can do with a ruler.

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3

Look at these pictures from Chapter Two. Match the pictures with what the people were saying.

“Stupid swords and stupid Petunia!”

“Be very careful. It’s very expensive!”

“Does anyone know what this is called?”

“But really, Mr Pearce, where are the swords?”



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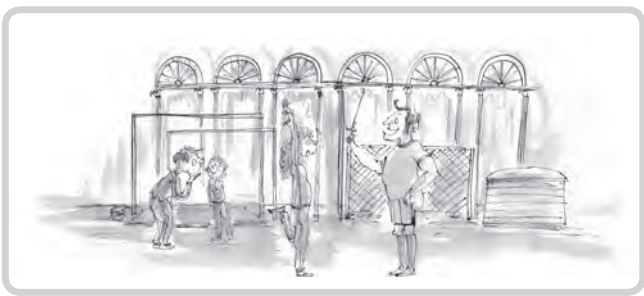
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# during reading

- 4 The people in the royal castle are very busy preparing for the exhibition. The King and Queen tell the children all the things they cannot do. **Complete** the rules.

You cannot \_\_\_\_\_ in the royal gallery or roller-skate in the \_\_\_\_\_ room.

Now **write** a list with 10 different things that you are not allowed to do at home or school.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

- 5 In Chapter 3 there are a lot of different noises. **Imagine** the horrid noise the throne made when Jake moved it! **Match** these sounds to the people or things that make them.

Wheeeeeee!	The royal seat moved back.
Ooops!	Jake said Petunia loves the teacher.
Click!	Jake was happy that Petunia did not discover the truth.
Phew!	Jake roller-skated fast.
Kissy-kissy-kissy.	Jake nearly had an accident.

- 6 **Listen** to Chapters 1, 2 and 3 on the CD while you read your book. Can you **repeat** these sentences and sound like brave Prince Jake and his terrified enemy?

*You've done it now....*

*You should never have come here....*

*Now it's time to pay!*

*Wait!...*

*Mercy!*

*No chance, loser!*



# during reading

## Chapter 4 and 5

- 1 **Tick** the boxes of the things Queen Caroline wants people to do. The first one has been done for you.

	Wear smart clothes	Make a cake	Be polite	Have a hair cut	Welcome the guests	Clean the castle	Be quiet	Park the cars
Jake	✓							
Ned								
Petunia								
King Nicholas								
Mrs. Pinny								
Boris the Butler								

- 2 **Unscramble** the words and **write** the answers to the questions.

What did the Queen do at breakfast?

to / The / everybody. / Queen / orders / gave

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What did the Prune teach the children?

family history. / them / in their / the great / She / told / about / sword-fighters/

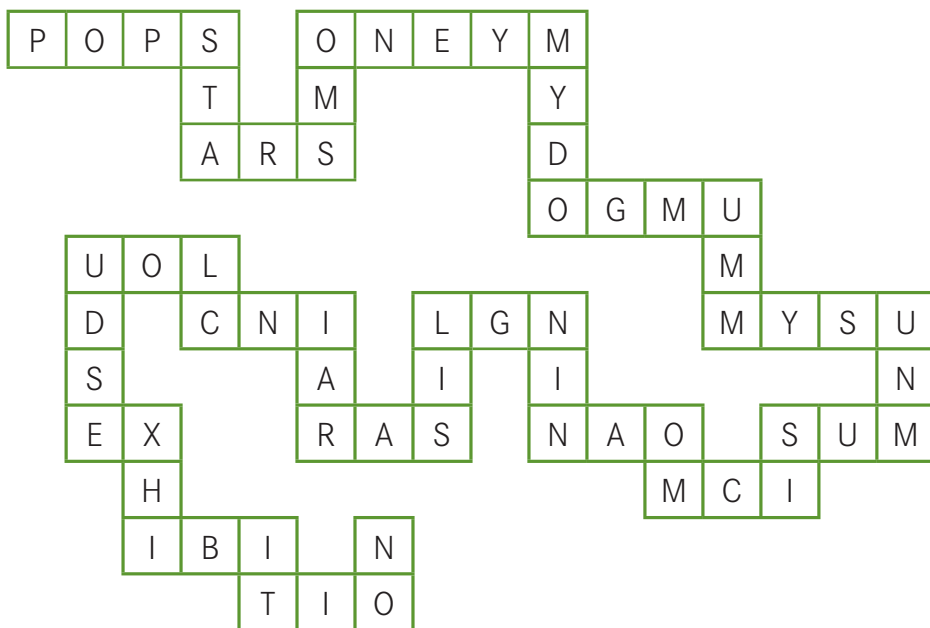
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Why was King Samuel famous?

He / years ago. / was / sword-fighter / four / hundred / a brilliant

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- 3 Alfonso, the royal barber, likes to talk and talk... He talks so much that all his talk has been mixed up. **Separate** the words to **find** what is he talking about




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- 4 Do you remember where these things were in the story? **Add** the correct preposition.

The secret room was \_\_\_\_\_ the King's throne.

Jake saw the robbers' feet through a hole \_\_\_\_\_ the wall.

The robbers had a van at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the castle.

The robber planned to run \_\_\_\_\_ of the castle with the painting.

# during reading

## Chapter 4 and 5

- 1 Use these verbs to **fill in** the blanks.

steal    put on    chop off    take off    bang

Petunia stopped to \_\_\_\_\_ her shoes.

The two men wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ the expensive painting.

Was Jake going to \_\_\_\_\_ the robbers' heads?

Petunia \_\_\_\_\_ a helmet.

The children decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the swords and shields to make a noise.

- 2 What was everybody wearing? **Write** what you remember.

Jake was wearing \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Princess Petunia was wearing \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Prince Ned was wearing \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The Prune was wearing \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3 **Listen** to Chapters 6 and 7 on the CD while you read your book. Can you **repeat** these sentences and sound like the excited royal children who have saved the day?

*We found Deathblade!*

*There's a secret room full of swords!*

*And a secret tunnel, too!*



4 **Match** the expressions that mean the same.

The two robbers were **very frightened** by the noise.

excited

The Prune was **very nervous and happy** when she saw Deathblade.

terrified

The royal children were **very unclean** after their adventure.

secret

The Queen said the children were **able to face danger with no fear**.

dirty

The tunnel and the room were **unknown and undiscovered**.

brave

5 **Write** True (T) or False (F).

Jake never liked classes with his teacher, the Prune, because they were always boring.

Jake didn't want to learn to sword-fight with a modern sword.

Jake broke the royal throne when he was roller-skating.

King Samuel the Great was Jake's dad.

The two robbers planned to take a painting.

The royal children frightened the robbers.



2 Put the pictures in the order they appear in the story. Now write sentences to describe the pictures.



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# after reading

3 **Fill in** the blanks. **Practise** the conversation.

ask steal put meeting run come stopped pay

*Jake:* Trying to \_\_\_\_\_ the Moaning Lisa, were you? You've done it now. You should never have come here. Now it's time to \_\_\_\_\_ !

*The robbers:* Wait! Mercy!

*Jake:* No chance, losers!

*The Queen:* Prince Jake! Prince Jake! \_\_\_\_\_ that sword down! What's happening?

*Petunia:* Don't \_\_\_\_\_ us, ask them! They were going to steal the Moaning Lisa!

*Jake:* And we \_\_\_\_\_ them!

*The robbers:* \_\_\_\_\_ !

*Jake:* \_\_\_\_\_ back!

*Boris the butler:* I think the police will be interested in \_\_\_\_\_ you two.

4 **Write** a newspaper report about Deathblade and the robbers.

The headline for the report is: \_\_\_\_\_

The main character of the report is: \_\_\_\_\_

The main action in the report is : Two robbers plan to steal the *Moaning Lisa*.

First, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Then, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Finally, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_