

A Day in the Library with Pip

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills by identifying facts, inferring character motives, and understanding vocabulary in context.

Read the following short story about Pip the caterpillar and answer the questions below. Think carefully about why Pip behaves the way he does.

Pip the caterpillar spent his Tuesday in the grand, quiet library of the Oak Tree hollow. He moved at a slow, steady pace across the wooden shelves, his tiny legs carrying him towards a dusty, leather-bound book about the history of woodland paths. Pip loved collecting new words; he kept a tiny notebook tucked into his leaf-cloak for this exact purpose. As he reached the spine of the book, he noticed a small smudge of jam on the cover. 'Oh dear,' Pip sighed, adjusting his spectacles. 'A book must be treated with the greatest respect.' With a gentle wipe and a focused expression, he cleaned the cover before opening the pages to begin his afternoon of discovery.

Word bank: curiosity · meticulous · adventure · scoured · tome

1. Why did Pip spend his Tuesday in the Oak Tree hollow library? (2 marks)

2. Find and copy one word from the text that describes how Pip treated the book. What does this tell us about his personality? (2 marks)

3. Pip has a tiny notebook in his leaf-cloak. Based on the text, what is the main purpose of this notebook? (1 mark)

4. The author says Pip 'sighed' when he saw the jam. How was Pip likely feeling in that moment? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

5. If Pip were to buy a new bookmark for his book, and it cost £1.45, how much change would he receive from a £2.00 coin? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw Pip the caterpillar inside the library, showing his spectacles and his tiny notebook. Make sure to include the book he is reading!



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) explaining what Pip might discover inside the book about woodland paths. Use at least two words from the word bank.