

Pip's Secret Story-Sack

Learning objective: To retrieve information and make inferences from a text about the creative writing process.

Read the story about Pip the caterpillar and answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

Pip was a cheerful bookworm caterpillar with a passion for collecting words. While other caterpillars spent their days simply munching leaves, Pip carried a small, velvet story-sack. Inside, he kept 'sparkle-words'—vivid adjectives and powerful verbs he had discovered in his favourite books.

One sunny afternoon, Pip decided to write a story about a mountain made of peppermint cream. He didn't just write 'the mountain was big'. Instead, he reached into his sack and pulled out the word 'colossal'. He wanted his reader to feel the chill of the minty breeze and smell the sweetness of the peaks.

Pip knew that the first draft is rarely perfect. He spent hours scribbling, crossing out, and polishing his sentences until the scene felt alive. He believed that creative writing was like painting a picture, but using words instead of brushes. By the time the sun set, Pip had created a magical world that existed only in his imagination, proving that a few clever words could transport anyone anywhere.

Word bank: imagination · vivid · inspiration · descriptive · draft

1. What did Pip keep inside his velvet story-sack? (1 mark)

2. What specific word did Pip use to describe the peppermint cream mountain instead of the word 'big'? (1 mark)

3. Why do you think Pip spent hours 'crossing out' and 'polishing' his sentences? (2 marks)

4. How do we know that Pip is more interested in books than the average caterpillar? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Pip's idea of using words like 'painting a picture' is a good way to describe writing? Explain why or why not. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the caterpillar with his velvet story-sack, showing the colossal peppermint cream mountain in the background.



Extension challenge: Write your own descriptive paragraph about a magical food-land. Use at least three 'sparkle-words' (powerful adjectives) to make your writing more vivid.