

Pip's Word Treasure Hunt

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills and understand the impact of varied vocabulary.

Read the story about Pip the caterpillar carefully. Use the text to answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

Pip was a cheerful bookworm caterpillar with a magnificent collection of words. While other caterpillars were content simply munching on leaves, Pip spent his afternoons hunting for 'treasure words' in the garden. He didn't just see a big flower; he saw a colossal, shimmering blossom that glowed like a fallen star. He didn't just feel happy; he felt exuberant!

One sunny Tuesday, Pip discovered a dusty old dictionary resting beneath a giant oak tree. He spent hours diligently scanning the pages, his tiny eyes widening at the wonderful descriptions. He realised that using precise words was like painting a picture with language. Instead of saying the weather was 'nice', Pip decided to describe the afternoon as 'balmy'.

As he shared his new vocabulary with his friends, they began to see the world differently. The garden was no longer just a place to eat; it became an enchanting realm of adventure. Pip felt proud that his love for reading had helped his friends discover the magic hidden within a single, well-chosen word.

Word bank: magnificent · curious · colossal · shimmering · diligent

1. What did Pip find resting beneath a giant oak tree? (1 mark)

2. Which word did Pip use instead of 'nice' to describe the afternoon? (1 mark)

3. How do we know Pip is a hardworking character? Give one piece of evidence from the text. (2 marks)

4. Why does the author say that using precise words is like 'painting a picture with language'? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Pip is a good friend? Explain your answer using an example from the story. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the caterpillar reading his dusty old dictionary under the giant oak tree, surrounded by the 'treasure words' he has found.



Extension challenge: Can you find three 'ordinary' adjectives in the text (e.g., 'big') and replace them with more exciting, ambitious vocabulary to make the story sound more dramatic?