

A Bright Night with Nova

Learning objective: To retrieve and infer information from a non-fiction text about the history and traditions of Bonfire Night.

Read the story below carefully. Use the word bank to help you understand the tricky words. Answer the questions in the spaces provided. You can do this!

Nova the owl loves looking at the night sky. On the 5th of November, the sky is extra bright. This night is called Bonfire Night. It has a long history. In 1605, a man named Guy Fawkes tried to hide gunpowder under the Houses of Parliament. He wanted to cause trouble, but his secret plot was stopped. Today, people do not remember the plot to be mean. Instead, they light big bonfires to stay warm. Families gather in gardens or parks to watch colourful fireworks sparkle in the dark sky. Some children hold a sparkler and draw shapes in the air with the bright light. They eat yummy toffee apples and warm food. It is a very noisy and happy tradition. Nova sits high in her tree and watches the pretty lights dance. She thinks it is a wonderful way to celebrate history and stay together with friends. Remember, always stay far away from the fire and keep safe!

Word bank: History: the study of the past · Tradition: something people do every year · Plot: a secret plan · Sparkler: a handheld firework · Parliament: where laws are made

1. What is the date of Bonfire Night? (1 mark) (1 mark)

2. Name two things people eat or use on Bonfire Night. (2 marks) (2 marks)

3. Why do people light bonfires today? (2 marks) (2 marks)

4. How do you know that Nova the owl enjoys Bonfire Night? (2 marks) (2 marks)

5. Do you think Bonfire Night is a good tradition? Why? (2 marks) (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Nova the owl sitting in her tree, watching colourful fireworks in the night sky.



Extension challenge: Write two safety rules for keeping safe around a bonfire. Start your sentences with: 'You must...' or 'Do not...'