

A Snowy Surprise at the Library

Learning objective: To retrieve information from a text and understand how an author creates a festive atmosphere.

Read the story below carefully. Answer the questions in full sentences, ensuring you use evidence from the text to support your ideas.

The Great Oak Library was silent, except for the soft rustle of pages. Pip the caterpillar was busy organising the winter collection on the highest shelf. Outside, large, fluffy snowflakes drifted down like white feathers, covering the forest floor in a thick, sparkling blanket. Inside, the library felt warm and inviting. Zara the zebra had spent the morning decorating the reading nook with strings of shimmering ivy and hand-painted baubles that caught the amber glow of the lamps. As the clock struck four, Leo the lion arrived with a bundle of scrolls. 'I have written a poem about the first day of winter,' Leo whispered, his voice full of excitement. They all gathered around the fireplace, the smell of pine needles filling the air, ready to share stories as the moon began to rise over the snowy trees.

Word bank: festive · shimmering · atmosphere · cozy · anticipation · whispered

1. Where is the story set and how does the author describe the weather outside? (2 marks)

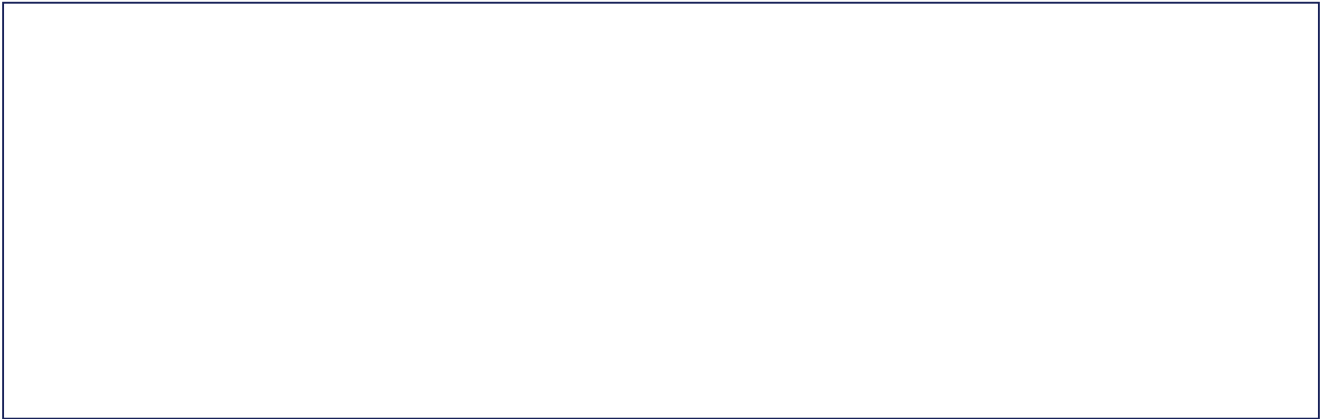
2. What are two things Zara has done to make the reading nook feel festive? (2 marks)

3. Why did Leo the lion visit the library today? (1 mark)

4. Find and copy an adjective from the text that describes the snowflakes. (1 mark)

5. How do you think the characters are feeling at the end of the story? Use evidence to explain your answer. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw the reading nook described in the story, including the shimmering ivy, the baubles, and the warm glow of the fireplace.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are joining Pip, Zara, and Leo for their winter story time. Write a short paragraph describing what snack you would bring to share with them and why.