A Bright Night with Nova

Learning objective: To retrieve information, make inferences, and express personal opinions about a text regarding Bonfire Night.

Read the story carefully. Use the word bank to help you spell tricky words. Write your answers in the boxes provided.

It is a chilly autumn evening. Nova the owl sits high in the old oak tree. She looks down at the garden. Below, there is a large, crackling bonfire. The flames dance orange and yellow in the dark sky. Nova watches the people hold small, fizzing sparklers. They draw shapes in the air with the golden light. Everyone is wearing thick coats, scarves, and gloves to stay warm. A kind farmer hands out baked potatoes wrapped in foil. The smell of woodsmoke fills the air. Nova loves this special night. She likes to watch the bright colours pop and flash above the trees. It is important to stay back from the fire to be safe. Nova hoots softly to the children. She thinks the night sky looks like a giant, shimmering painting. It is a wonderful time to be outside with friends and family. Nova flaps her wings and watches the sparks float away like tiny, glowing stars.

Word bank: bonfire · sparklers · bright · autumn · warm · safety · night

1. What do the people hold that makes golden light and fizzing sounds? (2 marks)

2. What are the people wearing to stay warm in the chilly air? (2 marks)

3. How do you know that the people are being careful near the fire? (2 marks)

4. Why might Nova enjoy watching the sparks from the bonfire? (2 marks)

5. Would you like to go to a bonfire party? Why or why not? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the bonfire in the garden. Draw Nova the owl watching from her tree. Remember to draw the bright sparks in the sky!

Extension challenge: Write two sentences about your favourite thing to eat or do on a cold, winter night.