

A Sparkly Night with Leo the Lion

Learning objective: To develop reading comprehension skills by retrieving information, making inferences, and evaluating historical events related to Bonfire Night.

Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions below. Think carefully about your reasons for your answers.

Leo the Lion invited his friends to a cosy gathering on the fifth of November. As the sun set, the sky turned a deep shade of indigo. Leo explained that Bonfire Night is a British tradition that remembers a historical event from 1605. Long ago, a group of people tried to cause trouble at the Houses of Parliament, but their plan was stopped. Today, we celebrate with bright fireworks and warm bonfires to mark the safety of the King. Leo held a long metal stick with a glowing sparkler, carefully watching the bright orange embers dance in the night air. He reminded everyone that fireworks can be loud and hot, so it is important to stand a safe distance away. The smell of woodsmoke filled the air as they ate jacket potatoes wrapped in foil. Zara the Zebra sketched the swirling patterns of light in her notepad, noticing how the colours changed from gold to crimson. It was a marvellous evening of history, friendship, and sparkling light, reminding everyone to be careful while enjoying the crisp autumn night.

Word bank: tradition · commemorate · sparklers · celebrate · safety · history

1. What date does Bonfire Night take place, and what food did the friends eat? (2 marks)

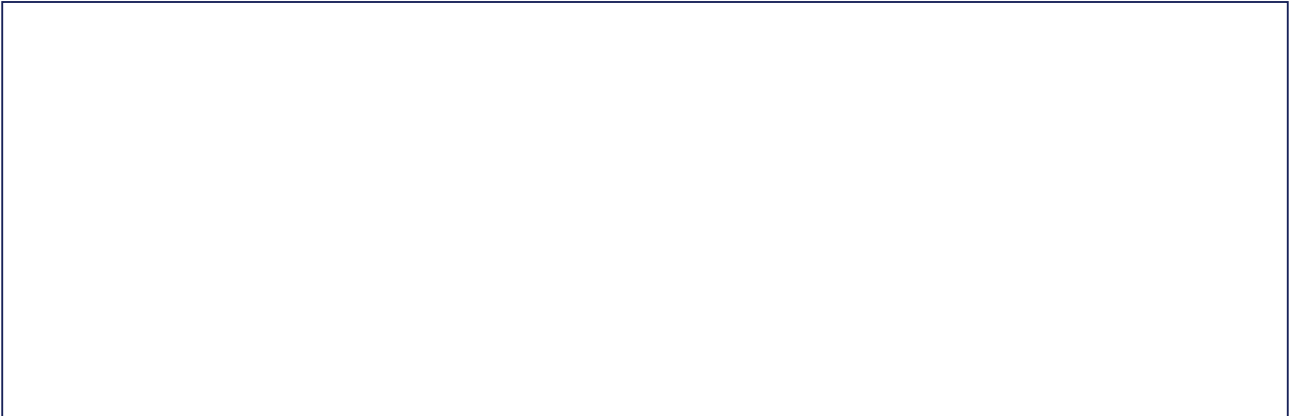
2. Find and copy one word from the text that describes the colour of the sky at sunset. (1 mark)

3. Why do you think Leo gave his friends a safety warning about the fireworks? (2 marks)

4. How can you tell that Zara the Zebra enjoyed watching the fireworks? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Bonfire Night is an important tradition? Justify your answer using reasons. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene of Leo and his friends watching fireworks. Include at least two safety features they might use, like a bucket of water or a safe viewing distance.



Extension challenge: Explain why we might choose to celebrate historical events with light and fire. What might happen if we stopped remembering these stories from the past? Write a short paragraph justifying your opinion.