

The Secrets of Vesuvius

Retriever Rex



LO: I can ask a question that I would like to find the answer to in a non-fiction or fiction text.

To support our learning objective, you could ask your child questions such

as:

What did you find out about...?

Can you name...?

How many...?

Why did...?




This goes in your reading diary and helps any adult (school or home) to ask you questions based on our reading focus for this week.

Monday 28th February

The Secrets of Vesuvius - Scroll 1 - Scroll VI

Vocabulary Victor will help you work out the meaning of unknown words and phrases using context cues in year 3 and 4.

Retriever Rex will help you to go into a text and just simply retrieve the facts and key details in year 3 and 4.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| <p>RIC</p> <p>The Twits</p> <p>Vocabulary task</p> <p>Find synonyms for:</p> <p>Shout Tremble Shy Hurry</p> | <p>Whole class</p> <p>Retriever Rex</p>  <p>L.O. I can explain the main idea of a paragraph or page I have just read.</p> | <p>Retriever Rex</p>  <p>LO: I can ask a question that I would like to find the answer to in a non-fiction or fiction text.</p> | <p>Comprehension Questions</p> |  |

If a person has ugly thoughts, it begins to show on the face. And when that person has ugly thoughts every day, every week, every year, the face gets uglier and uglier until you can hardly bear to look at it.

- Roald Dahl,
The Twits



Retrieve



R: What book is this quote from? Who wrote it?

Interpret



I: What do you think would happen if you had nice thoughts?

Choice



C: What is the author trying to persuade you about?

Tuesday 1st March

The Secrets of Vesuvius

Retriever Rex



LO: I can ask a question that I would like to find the answer to in a non-fiction or fiction text.

What reading skills
can you remember?
(Think about the
dogs!)



Literary Leonard will help you to spot examples of ambitious vocabulary and figurative language, and explain how these words/phrases add to the text

Vocabulary Victor will help you work out the meaning of unknown words and phrases using context cues in Year 3



Rex Retriever will help you to go into a text and just simply retrieve the facts and key details in Year 3



Summary Suki is there to remind you to summarise the main points or main events of a paragraph or text in Year 3



Inference Iggy will help you hunt for clues in a text about how someone might be feeling or why something is happening in Year 3



Predicting Pip tries to see the future and she will help you work out what might happen next from clues in the text in Year 3

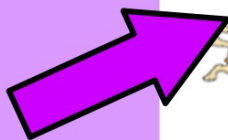


Cassie the Commentator discusses the content of a paragraph/text and compares events and characters

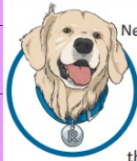


Reading Skills

Year 3 and 4



Improving Your Reading with Rex Retriever: The Rats of Newtown



Newtown is a sleepy little town upon the Solent shore. Although it is sleepy now, it was once very noisy. What made the noise? Rats. The place was so infested with them that nobody wanted to live there.

There wasn't a barn, a room or a cupboard that rats hadn't eaten their way into. The rats had gnawed on every wheel of cheese and bag of sugar. Even the wooden barrels of wine and beer were not safe. The rats would chew a hole in the barrel and lower themselves down into the liquid while holding onto another rat's tail.

However, the rats did something even worse. They squeaked, shrieked, hurried and scurried so loudly that the people in Newtown couldn't hear themselves think. They also couldn't get a wink of sleep. Every mother across the town had to keep watch over her baby's cradle all night long to stop a big, ugly rat from running across the poor baby's face.



1. What were the people of Newtown not able to do? Tick **two**.

- Stand guard
- Sleep and rest
- Hear themselves think
- Leave the town

3. Give **two** reasons why people in Newtown did not like the rats.

1. _____
2. _____

2. Give **one** item that the rats gnawed on.

4. Tick **one** box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

| Statement | True | False |
|---|------|-------|
| Rats lowered themselves into barrels of oil. | | |
| Mothers stayed up all night long to protect their babies. | | |
| The rats would eat loaves of bread. | | |
| The rats moved quietly around the town. | | |

Wednesday 2nd March

Rex Retriever

'Yes.'
'That's Herculaneum. Then . . . look right - no further - yes, there. That's Pompeii and then . . . do you see that small cluster of red roofs a bit further to the right? That's Stabia. My brother lives nearer to Stabia than Pompeii. But we'll disembark in Pompeii. The harbour at Stabia is murder to get in and out of.'

It was late afternoon by the time the *Myrtilla* sailed into the port of Pompeii. The vast blue bowl of the sky was filled with the piercing cries of swifts, which had begun to fly lower as the day cooled.

Pompeii was built on a hill, and they could see the imposing town walls across the water, orange in the rays of the sinking sun. The red roofs of the tallest buildings peeped above.

Using the large paddle at the back of the ship, Flavia's father guided the *Myrtilla* into the harbour. When the ship was moored, they all made their way carefully down the boarding plank.


'I must organise my berth with the harbourmaster,' said Captain Geminus, looking around. 'Ah, here he comes. Can you wait at that tavern over there across the square, the one with the yellow awning and plane trees? We'll bring the baggage and dogs over in a few minutes.'


The seven passengers made their way slowly past a forest of elegant masts. Coloured pennants fluttered and the tackle jingled musically in the late afternoon


Read the extract. What information can you retrieve about the port of Pompeii?


Thursday 3rd March


Comprehension Questions

- Retrieval**


What does Lupus do when he pops out of the water? (p.1)
- Inference**


Why does Flavia run into the water? How do you know? Use evidence from the text. (p.3)
- Vocabulary**


On page 6, what word shows that the friend got to their feet quickly?
- Retrieval**


Why did Flavia and her friends need bodyguards? (p.4)
- Predict**


On p.34, the chapter ends with 'A huge black wolf was heading straight for Scuti.' Based on what we know, what do you think will happen next?

