

Select a few questions for reflection after reading and one or two of the activities below.

Reflect

- What did you expect the story to be about? Did it turn out that way?
- What characters did you enjoy? Why?
- Was there anything in the story that you could relate to because of an experience you have had?
- Would you recommend the story to others? Who and why?
- What did the story tell you about the author and their attitudes and beliefs? Do you agree?
- How long do you think it took the story to happen? Are there parts of the story that took a long time to happen but were told in just a few words? Are there parts that happened very quickly but were told in many words?
- Whose story is this?
- Who was telling – narrating – the story?
- Is there a moral?
- Was there anyone who was not mentioned in the story, but without whom it could not have happened?
- Were there any words or phrases you enjoyed?
- If the author asked you to say what could have been improved in the book, what would you say?
- What do we know about the author?
- Were there any patterns or connections that you noticed?

Retell

- Retell the story in your own words
- Draw the story cartoon style
- Rewrite the story, summarising each chapter
- Use a story frame to support your retelling
- As a character from the story write a letter at a key point in the story, explaining their actions, apologising, complaining and so on.

Change the story

- Rewrite the story as a play, diary, comic strip, graphic novel, poem, fairy tale, etc.
- Rewrite, retell or act out the story from the point of view of someone else.

Graphic approaches

- Draw a map of the story
- Create a time line for the story
- Use pictures of the main events to reorder the sequence of events
- Plot the story as a graph showing highs and lows in events.

Figure 4.15 Improving comprehension: Activities after reading



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