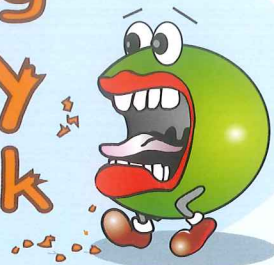


Something Ate My Homework



1 Dear Miss Pringle,

I'm sorry about how my homework looks.

I know I said I'd try to keep it neat after what the elephants did to last week's homework.

But I tried. Really I did. Let me explain

2 On Monday afternoon a huge, hairy beast with dripping fangs ate my homework before I could even start it. It's true! Look at the teeth marks, and the hair stuck on the back of the first page.

I fought the beast and wrestled it until it spat my homework out! I rescued the pages from the Jaws of Hell. That's why Monday's homework looks a bit chewed up. That's what happens when you wrestle with beasts.



3 Then on Tuesday afternoon two tigers fought over my homework. They both wanted to sit on it. It's true! Look at the claw marks and the top corner that's missing. Look at the slash marks on my wrists. Tigers have sharp teeth and claws.

I chased the tigers away and rescued my homework again. Most of it. That's why it looks a bit ripped.



4 On Wednesday afternoon two thieves thought it was a real treasure map. It's true! You shouldn't have asked us to draw a pirate map. Mine looked great until the pirates signed their names all over it in blood.

Then they started to fight each other for it, until finally they tore the map into thirds. That's why Wednesday's homework is stuck back together with sticky tape. Sorry about the smudges — that's where I tried glue first.



5 On Thursday afternoon a giantess tidied up my room and threw my homework in the rubbish bin. It's true! She does it every week.

She even threw the chicken bones from dinner on top of it! That's why the top page looks a bit greasy. But you can still read most of it.



6 I remembered to put my homework in my school bag on Friday morning. But on the way to school five fire-eating dragons swooped down and stole my school bag. There went my homework! It's true!

I chased those dragons right across the park. I wasn't going to let them get away with it. The dragons shot flames from their mouths to try to put me off — that's why there's a scorch mark on the corner of my homework sheet. You should see my schoolbag.



When I yelled to the dragons, "Drop that homework!" They did — right in the middle of a lake.

7 It's true! I had to jump in to save it.

I guess it's lucky I'm a strong swimmer. I didn't care about getting wet and muddy. I saved my homework just before it sank. It looked a bit soggy, though. So I put my homework on the grass to dry.

8 And you'll never guess what happened next — a whirlwind blew it away!

Then some eagles swooped down and grabbed it. I couldn't save it from being eaten by the eagles. Here's the bit they dropped. Sorry, Miss.

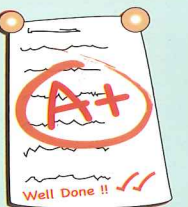


9 It looks better than last week's homework, though.

I'll try harder next week, Miss Pringle. Honest.

Yours sincerely, as always,

Johnno Johnson





The Dog
THE HAIRY BEAST



The Cats
THE TIGERS



The Brother and Sister
THE PIRATES



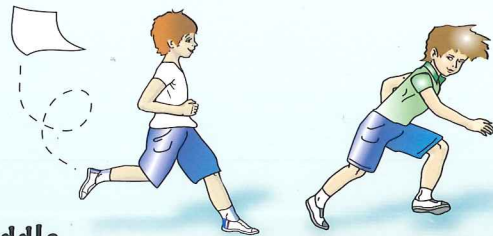
The Mum
THE GIANTESS



The Friends in Costume
THE DRAGONS



The Dirty Puddle
THE LAKE



The Friends Playing
THE WHIRLWIND



The Seagulls
THE EAGLES

Questions

- What did he say happened to his homework last week?
 - Tigers got it.
 - Pirates got it.
 - Elephants got it.
- Which day did the giantess ruin his homework?
 - Tuesday
 - Wednesday
 - Thursday
- On Wednesday what did he have to do to fix his homework?
 - Stick it back together.
 - Dry it out on the grass.
 - Scrape chicken bones off it.
- What were the dragons really?
 - his cats
 - his friends
 - the seagulls
- Which word best describes Johnno?
 - imaginative
 - quiet
 - neat
- The type of homework that Johnno would probably enjoy is
 - story writing.
 - maths problems.
 - revising spelling.

Vocabulary

Match the words from the text to the clues.

The brackets show the text sections ().

greasy swooped scorch slash smudges

- To cut with long lines (3)
- Dirty marks on something (4)
- Oily (5)
- To burn a little (6)
- Dived down like a bird (8)

Grammar

You'll is the contraction of *you will*. Join the words below to form contractions. Write the word.

- there is
- was not
- I am
- that is

Back To The Text...

- Which section states that thieves thought his homework was a treasure map?
 - section 4
 - section 6
- Another good name for this text would be:
 - Tigers and Pirates
 - Please Let Me Explain

18 Prediction: What is likely to happen in the future?

- Johnno's homework will be done properly.
- Johnno's homework will be a mess again.

Sequencing

Look back through the card to find what happened first. Choose **a** or **b**.

- The tigers got the homework.
 - The dragons got the homework.
- The whirlwind took his homework.
 - The homework dropped into the lake.
- The homework was chewed by the dog.
 - An elephant ruined his homework.

Think About This

- The illustrations on page 3 show
 - the homework stories he had to write.
 - what really happened to his homework.
- The Homework sheet on page 2 probably belongs to
 - Johnno.
 - someone else.

Challenge Option

Drawing: Draw a picture of your teacher's face when you explain that you've lost your homework.

