



The Creature in The Forest

What is scaring away the campers at Chimney Rock State Forest? Some people say a big creature lives in the forest, but Scoop and Jake are going to find out for themselves.

Vocabulary Words: reporter, creature, forest, circus, clown, shelter, ankle, stilts, intern

The Smoke Bomber

The excitement of a political campaign comes to Big Bend, but so does a threat. Will Scoop and Jake get to the bottom of the story before anyone gets hurt?

Vocabulary Words: junk mail, recycling, government, governor, criminal, speech, election, screen, smoke bomb, politics, campaign, vegetables, junk food, health, senator, laptop, fire-cracker, handcuff.

The Runaway

A mother asks Scoop to help find her missing son. Jake and Scoop get worried when they find out that Red Grogan is involved. How will they find this boy and keep him out of trouble?

Vocabulary Words: deadline, intern, noise, clicks, clacks, hide, arrest, alley, trash

The Missing Trophy

In a blast from the past, Scoop's champion high school trophy goes missing. He and his intern, Jake go back to school to find the story behind the disappearance of the missing trophy.

Vocabulary Words: backpack, computer, baseball, college, championship, league, trophy, steal, editor, janitor, handyman, basement, solve, coach, brag

The Poisoned River

What's killing all the fish at Scoop's favorite spot on the river? What started as a relaxing weekend has turned into a big story-one with a thrilling end.

Vocabulary Words: bait, poison, health officer, clues, upstream, downstream, security guard, waste, chemicals, tanker,

A glossary is included in each book, following the Table of Contents.



***Extending the Vocabulary:**

- Use the *Word Map* to help students to reinforce their recognition of new vocabulary words.
- As you introduce the vocabulary words, have students work in pairs or groups, and assign one or two words to each group, pass out copies of the *Word Map*, and ask students to add their vocabulary word/s to their *Word Map*.
- Provide an example for them on the board or on an overhead projector. Place or write the word *intern* in the middle square; ask students to define the word, (students can use the dictionary to find the appropriate definition) “*a student or graduate usually in a professional field gaining supervised practical experience.*” Discuss and determine which definition is the best, making sure that the definition relates to the story. Then write it in the square above the word. On the board or transparency ask the class for a sentence using the word, *intern*. *My brother is an intern at St. John’s Hospital downtown.* Discuss the sentence and how it relates to Jake in the story. See if your students can think of other sentences that are appropriate. Write those sentences in the box at the bottom of the page.
- Ask students what a synonym is. *Synonyms are words that are very close in meaning* (example: happy/glad).
- See if students can think of a synonym for the word *intern*. Discuss, and ask students to review the definition to help (example: student teacher). Place answer in the box designated on the *word map*.
- Ask students what an antonym is. *Antonyms are words that are opposite in meaning* (example: hot/cold, up/down). Students may have difficulty finding opposites for some words; you may want to discuss why some words do not have antonyms. *The word intern has other meanings when used in a different context; discuss this with students and review other definitions of the word, explaining to them that using the word in a different context, the word may have an antonym.*
- Now it’s your students’ turn. Using the assigned words and the word map, students will follow your example and find and write the right definitions, sentences, synonyms and antonyms in the identified spaces. Students will introduce their work to the whole group and discuss their answers.

Vocabulary Enrichment

Students need to be actively involved with new vocabulary words. Provide playful opportunities for your students to interact with the words and process the meaning for immediate feedback.

- Ask questions that reinforce the meaning of the new vocabulary words.
Jim acts like a clown.
- Provide *sentence starters* to apply the meaning of the word in a different context. Tell students that you are going to start a sentence and you want them to think of an ending.
Sarah looked like a clown when she...
- Help the students to understand that they can add these new words to their own vocabularies. Provide opportunities for your students to use these words as part of their own experiences.
When was the last time you went to the circus? Describe the clowns and what they were doing.



Creature In the Forest

Set One

COMPREHENSION TRUE/FALSE

Some of the statements below are true. Some are false. Place a “T” in front of those that are true and an “F” in front of those that are false.

- _____ 1. Scoop Doogan is the star reporter for the Big Bend Times.
- _____ 2. Jake Malone is Scoop’s intern at the Times.
- _____ 3. The creature was seen at the Chimney Rock State Forest.
- _____ 4. The editor of the Times is Ann Goodwill.
- _____ 5. The creature has been seen more than 20 times.
- _____ 6. Debra Hill, the Forest Ranger, calls Scoop to tell him about another camper seeing the creature.
- _____ 7. Scoop has a red sports car.
- _____ 8. The last camper who saw the creature was Len Gold.
- _____ 9. None of the campers is afraid of the creature.
- _____ 10. The camper saw the creature around the campgrounds.
- _____ 11. Rick Adams worked at a gas station before working at the Chimney Rock State Forest.
- _____ 12. Scoop and Jake decide to stay at the campgrounds to find the creature.
- _____ 13. Scoop and Jake fall asleep and almost miss seeing the creature.
- _____ 14. Jake runs away when he sees the creature.
- _____ 15. While chasing the creature, Scoop trips on a rock and hurts his ankle.
- _____ 16. Jake is a fast runner; he had been on the track team in high school.
- _____ 17. Scoop can not catch the creature so he decides to drive back to Big Bend.
- _____ 18. On the way home, Jake has an idea and asks Scoop if they could return to the forest to solve the mystery.
- _____ 19. Scoop solves the mystery.
- _____ 20. Rick Adams was the creature; as a joke he used stilts to make him look ten feet tall.



The Smoke Bomber

STORY FRAME

Reread *The Smoke Bomber* and use the space below to rewrite the story in your own words.

Main Characters:

What the story was about: (use the back of this paper if you need more space)

Name your favorite character and tell why you like this character:



The Runaway

IDENTIFYING FACTS

Complete each sentence by putting a circle around the correct answer.

1. Scoop and Jake are solving the mystery of _____.
Big Bend the runaway Red Grogan
2. Rosa Gold wanted to talk to a _____.
judge policeman reporter
3. Mrs. Gold's missing son's name is _____.
Dan Tom Ed
4. Tom got in trouble and ran away because he got into a _____.
fight car truck
5. Tom's mother wanted him to return to _____.
Rock Falls Crystal Lake Chimney Rock State Forest
6. Tom was afraid to return home because of _____.
the police his brother Red Grogan
7. Jake heard _____ in the background, while talking to Tom.
clicks and clacks dogs bells
8. Tom was hiding out at _____.
his grandmother's the camp grounds Red Grogan's pool hall
9. Red Grogan was _____ when he saw Jake in his pool hall.
mad happy glad
10. Red Grogan _____ about not knowing Tom.
laughed lied cried
11. Ted Riley told Scoop and Jake where Tom was _____.
hiding playing going



The Runaway

Set One

IDENTIFYING FACTS continued

12. Tom's brother name is _____.
Fred Harry Al
13. Scoop and Jake waited in the _____ to talk to Tom.
grass alley house
14. Tom ran away from Scoop and Jake but _____ caught him.
Jake Scoop Red Grogan



The Runaway

**THINK AND WRITE
UNDERSTANDING CHARACTER**

Reread *The Runaway*. Write a paragraph that tells what happens in the story from Tom’s point of view. Write your first draft on the lines below. Then you can write your final version on a separate piece of paper.

In your paragraph, be sure to...

- tell what Tom thinks when he first hears that someone is looking for him
- explain why Tom would work for a man like Red Grogan
- describe how Tom must have felt after speaking to his brother Al
- describe how Tom must feel being in a new city alone
- use details from the story to support your answer



Set One

The Missing Trophy

THINK AND WRITE UNDERSTANDING CHARACTER

Reread *The Missing Trophy*. Write a paragraph that tells what happens in the story from Joe Watson's point of view. Write your first draft on the lines below. Then you can write your final draft on a separate piece of paper.

In your paragraph, be sure to...

- tell what Joe thinks when he first hears that Scoop is going to investigate the missing trophy
- explain why it was so important to Joe to show the trophy to his little league players
- describe how Joe must have felt when he had to lie about the missing trophy
- describe how Joe must have felt when Scoop decided not to write about him
- use details from the story to support your answer



The Poisoned River

COMPREHENSION SEQUENCE

Put the facts in the correct order. Number them 1-8

- ___ Scoop and Jake went to the Big Bend Paper Mill to see Jake Morgan.
- ___ Frank and Al ran away and were chased by the police.
- ___ Scoop asks Jake to go to his favorite place to fish on the weekend.
- ___ Scoop and Jake look for clues and find the long driveway to the Paper Mill and tire tracks.
- ___ Scoop and Jake arrive at Scoop's favorite place to fish. They find dead fish floating in the river.
- ___ Scoop and Jake go to Helen Price, the city's health officer house.
- ___ Scoop calls Chief Rice to tell him about the dead fish in the river.
- ___ Scoop and Jake plan to go to Deer Lake the next weekend to fish.

TRUE/FALSE

Some of the statements below are true. Some are false. Place a "T" in front of those that are true and "F" in front of those that are false.

- ___ 1. Scoop and Jake decide to go to a baseball game instead of going fishing.
- ___ 2. Jake Morgan is the head of Big Bend Paper.
- ___ 3. Helen Price was at home when Scoop and Jake went to her house.
- ___ 4. Frank and Al got away from the police in one of the tanker trucks.
- ___ 5. Scoop and Jake found dead fish upstream and downstream.
- ___ 6. Every Saturday, poison waste is put into a tanker truck and driven to a factory 200 miles away.
- ___ 7. The tanker truck was a big clue because it was very dirty, with old mud and red clay.
- ___ 8. Scoop and Jake decided stay in Big Bend and to let the police handle solve the mystery.
- ___ 9. Frank and Al had been dumping poisoned waste into the river for two weeks.
- ___ 10. Scoop and Jake decided that the next weekend they would go to Deer Lake to fish.

ANSWER KEY FOR SCOOP DOOGAN SET 1

The Creature In the Forest

COMPREHENSION TRUE/FALSE

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. T | 11. T |
| 2. T | 12. F |
| 3. T | 13. F |
| 4. F | 14. F |
| 5. F | 15. T |
| 6. T | 16. T |
| 7. F | 17. T |
| 8. F | 18. T |
| 9. F | 19. F |
| 10. F | 20. T |

The Runaway

IDENTIFYING FACTS

1. Scoop and Jake are solving the mystery of *the runaway*.
2. Rosa Gold wanted to talk to a *reporter*.
3. Mrs. Gold's missing son's name is *Tom*.
4. Tom got in trouble and ran away because he got into a *fight*.
5. Tom's mother wanted him to return to *Rock Falls*.
6. Tom was afraid to return home because of the police
7. Jake heard *clicks and clacks* in the background, while talking to Tom.
8. Tom was hiding out at *Red Grogan's pool hall*.
9. Red Grogan was *mad* when he saw Jake in his pool hall.
10. Red Grogan *lied* about not knowing Tom.
11. Ted Riley told Scoop and Jake where Tom was *hiding*.
12. Tom's brother name is *Al*.
13. Scoop and Jake waited in the *alley* to talk to Tom.
14. Tom ran away from Scoop and Jake but *Jake* caught him.



ANSWER KEY FOR SCOOP DOOGAN SET 1 continued

The Poisoned River

COMPREHENSION SEQUENCE

- 5 Scoop and Jake went to the Big Bend Paper Mill to see Jake Morgan.
- 7 Frank and Al ran away and were chased by the police.
- 1 Scoop asks Jake to go to his favorite place to fish on the weekend.
- 6 Scoop and Jake look for clues and find the long driveway to the Paper Mill and tire tracks.
- 2 Scoop and Jake arrive at Scoop's favorite place to fish. They find dead fish floating in the river.
- 4 Scoop and Jake go to Helen Price, the city's health officer house.
- 3 Scoop calls Chief Rice to tell him about the dead fish in the river.
- 8 Scoop and Jake plan to go to Deer Lake the next weekend to fish.

TRUE/FALSE

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. F
5. F
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. T