Bingo board questions Year 6

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Summarise

Book: Skellig



By David Almond

Before you start reading:

PREDICT

Look at the front cover, can you predict what might happen in the story by using the pictures for clues?

PREDICT

Now read the blurb, have your predictions changed?

Now start reading

Chapter 1 - 3

VOCABULARY

Which words describe the man lying in the darkness? Pg1 What does the phrase 'danger money' mean? Pg3 Find a repeated phrase that shows that Michael is disappointed in the garden? Pg5

RETRIEVE

What can we learn about Michael's attitude to the baby? pg4 What does Michaels mum do to comfort him? Pg5

INFER

Who is telling the story? Pg1

What is Michael's relationship like with his family? Use evidence from the text, pg4.

How can you tell that Michael's attitude towards the garage has changed? Pg8

EXPLAIN

Explain why the writer chose a dark setting for the man to be in? What effect does this have on the reader? Pg3

What effect does the narrator have when he refers to the Doctor as 'Doctor Death'? pg1

PREDICT

From reading the first paragraph what could you predict the text is going to be about?

SUMMARISE

What significant events happen in the first three chapters? Summarise each chapter using just one sentence?

Chapter 4-6

VOCABULARY

What words are used to show that mum was caring for the baby? Pg9

What synonym could we use to replace 'dreamily'? Pg12

INFER

How does the description of the babies breathing show that she is unwell? Pg9

What do Michael's actions reveal about his attitude towards the baby? Pg9

Michael didn't want to talk to Mrs Dando, how do we know? Pq13

PREDICT

Do you think Michael will tell anyone about what he saw? Pg13

RETRIEVE

Why couldn't Michael sleep that night? Pg9

What does Michael do to the baby? Pg9

What did Michaels Dad tell him that made him want to go to school? Pg11

Why did Michael want to stay at Kenny High Street? Pg12

SUMMARISE

What happened when Michael returned to school? Pg12

Chapter 7-9

VOCABULARY

Michael describes himself as 'famished' what does that mean p21 What phrase tells you that Michael has had a good idea? p20

INFER

Michael 'chewed his lip' when he was talking to the man. Why does he do this? p17

Michael puts the leftover takeaway in the outside bin. Why do you think that is? p21

How can you tell Mina doesn't like boys very much? Use evidence from the text. p24

PREDICT

Do you think Michael and Mina are going to be friends? What makes you think that? p19

Read the paragraph starting 'she put the book and pencil in her mouth...' What sort of character do you think Mina is going to be? p23

EXPLAIN

Is the use of short responses from the man effective? What is the writer trying to show? p18

Dad tries to explain to Michael how the new garden will look. The Author then interjects and writes about Michael watching Mina. What is the Author trying to show?

RFTRFIVF

What does the man in the garage want from Michael? p17 Something took mums attention away from Michael- what was it? p21

Chapter 10-12

VOCABULARY

Which word tells you that the take away is unappetising? p25 What does the word 'ancestor' mean? p31

INFER

How can you tell the man enjoyed his leftovers? p27 Michael can feel something on the man's back. What do you think they are? How do you know? p29

PRFDICT

Do you think the man in the garage will ever get better? p29

FXPI ATN

Why didn't the writer tell us what Rasputin's mother said about shoulder blades? Does this further engage the reader? p33

RETREIVE

What does Michael do that shows he is uninterested in school that day? p33

Who woke up with a sore back in the morning? p31

SUMMARISE

What happened after Michael gave then man '27 and 53'?

Chapter 13-15

VOCABULARY

Why does Dad refer to the garden as a jungle? What does it tell us about the appearance? p43

What words does Michael use to describe himself after working in the garden that morning? p44

INFER

What was Michael thinking while being led through the house? p40

How can you tell that Dad is concerned about Michael? p43

PREDICT

What do you think Mina has brought Michael to see? Explain why you think this? p40

EXPLAIN

What effect does the writer have on the audience by writing about regular visits to see the baby in hospital? p45 How does the writer engage the reader? Do you think other children would agree with Mina's view of school? p47

RETRIEVE

What does Michael think will happen to the baby? p38 What gave Michael hope when he saw his baby sister in hospital? p45

SUMMARISE

Summarise chapter 15 in just one sentence.

Chapter 16-18

VOCABULARY

Explain what 'figment' means? p52

Find one phrase that showed that the man thought Mina helping would be useless? p53

INFER

Michael abruptly mentioned his baby sister whilst talking to the man. What does this tell you? p52

EXPLAIN

The attitude and mood of the man has changed overtime. How so? How has the writer tried to convey this? Chapter 16 How has the writer tried to build suspense? p60

RETRIEVE

What do Michaels parents do to make him feel better about the baby staying in hospital? p62

What does the old lady say some people use to help with their arthritis? p63

SUMMARISE

Summarise chapter 18 in one sentence.

Chapter 19-21

VOCABULARY

Mina says they are 'Modelling'? What sort of modelling does she mean? p68

What does it mean for Mina to 'stifle' a cry? p71

INFER

'She took my hand and squeezed it'. What does this tell us about how Mina and Michaels relationship has developed? p71 What impression does the man have of Mina? How do we know? p74

FXPI ATN

The writer said that Michael tried to tell Mina 'with his eyes'. Why did he write it like this? What was the purpose? p69

RETRIEVE

How did Mina react when she saw the man? What does it tell you about Mina's character? p71

SUMMARISE

What happened when Michael and Mina left the garage?

Chapter 22-24

VOCABULARY

Find words or phrases that describe the man when Michael and Mina pick him up? p80

What words does Michael use to describe Skellig's wings?p89

INFER

Mina's mum tells Michael to tell Mina to shut up. What does this reveal about Mina's and her mum's relationship?

Michael couldn't believe that they were able to move the man so well. How do we know this? p81

EXPLAIN

The writer finally reveals the name of the man in the garage. What significance does this have? Why has it taken so long to find out?

RETRIEVE

What can we learn from Michaels fears from his dream?p78 How long do Michael and Mina have left to keep Skellig in the house? p87

SUMMARISE

Summarise how Mina has helped since finding the man in the garage p82

Chapter 25-27

VOCABULARY

Mina describes the picture of the Dinosaurs tail as 'leaden'. What does this mean? p93

INFER

What do Michael's parent's actions tell us about the condition of the baby? p91

During their argument, do you think Coot ever felt threatened by Michael? Use evidence from the text. p97

EXPLAIN

Chapter 25 opens with 'The wires were in her again'. This meant to sound quite abrupt and shocking. Do you think it is successful? p91

RETRIEVE

Michael did something that Mina taught him a while ago. What was is it? Did it help? p91

SUMMARISE

What happened after Dad and Michael left the hospital? p92

Chapter28-30

VOCABULARY

Mina describes Michael as 'ignorant'. What does she mean by this? p102

INFER

Michael played better football now that Mina had gone. Why do you think this was? p99

Michael could feel his face 'burning and burning'. Why do you think this was? p101

What does Mina's and Michael's argument reveal about Mina's character? Is she as fiercely independent as she makes out? p103

EXPLAIN

The line 'Aye, some folk...' on page 98 refers to buildings. What could the writer also be referring to? p98

Which words or phrases were the most hurtful to Michael or Mina? Chapter29

Chapter 29 is very short, do you think this was done on purpose for special effect or coincidental?

RETRIEVE

What does Leakey call Mina? p101

What did Michael say that made Mina feel better? p106

SUMMARISE

Summarise chapter 30 in one sentence.

Chapter 31-33

VOCABULARY

What does the word 'blundered' mean? p107

Rasputin 'tousled' Michael's hair, what does this mean? p117

INFER

Skellig is asking Michael and Mina to come to him. How does this contrast with his attitude not long ago? p109

Do you think Doctor Death believed Michael about the sleep walking? Use evidence form the text. p114

EXPLAIN

The writer says the wings will never rise at Doctor Deaths back. This is powerful imagery but what does he mean by this? p114

RETRIEVE

Why does Michael not tell his Dad about Skellig? p116

SUMMARISE

What happened when Michael and Mina entered the house? p107

Chapter 34-36

VOCABULARY

What does the phrase 'daubs of colour' mean? p122

What does the word 'regurgitate' mean? p128

INFER

Mina's mum touched Michael's cheek. Why do you think she did that? p123

Michael was anxious at the thought of Skellig going away. As the reader how do we know this? p124

How do we know that Michael was particularly distressed at the doctors operating on his baby sister's heart? p130

FXPI ATN

How is the reader's feelings towards the baby affected by how she is described? p132

The writer says that Michael tried to find his 'happy half' and that tears 'trickled' down his face. How effective is it at making the reader feel sorry for Michael? p126

RFTRIFVF

How did the drawing help Michael? p126

Michael was worried about how his chest would feel when the baby was operated on. Why was that? p132

SUMMARISE

What happened after Dad's car arrived?

Chapter 37-39

VOCABULARY

Find a word that describes how the unknown cat looked at Michael and Mina? p142

INFER

Michael refers to 1am, 2am, and 3am as the 'dead hours'. Why do you think that is? p133

Michael's Dad is quite positive at this point. How do we know this? p136

EXPLAIN

Michael thinks of Persephone. What is the purpose of this paragraph? p138

RETRIEVE

How does Mina's mum try to comfort Michael? p138.

Michael thinks the baby is dead. How is he convinced that this is true? p142

SUMMARISE

What happened after Michael woke up that morning? p133

Chapter 40-43

VOCABULARY

Find a word or phrase which showed that the baby battled to survive? p148

Skellig 'sighed with contentment'. What does this tell us? p157

INFER

'We sat there, the three of us, hand in hand, looking down at the delicate creature.' What is Michael thinking? p150 Michael's mum describes the actions of Skellig. Why didn't Michael tell his parents there and then about him? p150

EXPLAIN

Dad says 'It's over Son.' What effect does that have on the reader? p147

The writer shows that Skellig's attitude towards Michael and Mina has changed over time. How does he convey this? p157

RETRIEVE

Mum 'knew it was going to be alright'. What happened that gave her such confidence? p150

What made school so brilliant for Michael the next day? p159

SUMMARISE

What happened after Skellig explained who he was? p158

Chapter 44-46

VOCABULARY

The fledglings 'gorge' themselves. What does this mean? p163 'Mum stood there beaming'. What does this tell us? p167

INFER

How can you tell that Michaels Dad is not upset at the garage having to be knocked down? p165

Identify the paragraph that shows that Michaels Dad is optimistic about the future. p167

EXPLAIN

Explain which section was the most interesting/exciting part for you?

The writer uses short paragraphs. Why do you think he writes in this way?

RETRIEVE

What did Skellig leave for Michael and Mina? Why? p162 What did Michael do to make sure the baby would dream well? p167

SUMMARISE

What happens after the baby came home? p167 Think of a name for the final chapter?

Now you have finished reading can you summarise the whole book in just 10 minutes.