

THE INVADER



by Mr A, Mr C and Mr D Present

It was the 5th November and the Robinson family were **sharing equally** their hotdogs and **cones** of chips as part of the local village Bonfire Night celebrations at the end of a busy **week**. The piping hot steam floated into the air from the hot food vendors and children giggled as they waved sparklers wildly around in front of anxious parents. Although it was **minus 3 degrees** and the firework display came to a crescendo, the small crowd still cheered and whooped.

There was one final, enormous bang as a bright green explosion stunned the crowd. It was so bright, everyone had to close their eyes, except little Timmy who watched closely and saw, in the distance, what looked like a figure in a parachute and strange **cylinder**-shaped object in the sky crashing towards the ground like a broken **kite**. He looked around but families had already turned and begun their short walk over the fields and back to their warm and cosy homes.



“Mum! Can I go and play on the swings and slides for a bit please?” Timmy begged.



“Darling, it’s getting pretty dark. Can’t you wait until tomorrow?” she replied, rather confused at such a request at this hour of the day.

“Pleeeeeease!” Timmy continued. His mum nodded and he dashed away with his sister, Ella. “Come with me,” he whispered and he beckoned his sister out of the park and into the fields beyond.

Ella was normally the mischievous one, so she giggled and followed her brother without hesitation.

Suddenly, they stopped only a **fraction** of their way into the field. There was a giant hole in the ground. It must have been the size of a football pitch! It smouldered in the freezing air and they both looked at each other in shock. They stood at the **vertex** of the huge hole and took a step backwards to avoid falling in and heard a scrambling noise. It sounded like someone was climbing up. Perhaps they had fallen in. Perhaps it was the figure in the parachute. Perhaps this was getting a bit too dangerous after all.

“Help! Help me up!” yelled a high-pitched, squeaky voice from below. Just then, a hand appeared looking for something to grab onto, then another. Ella and Timmy took a hand each and wrenched the unfortunate victim from the hole and fell backwards. When they looked up, they couldn’t believe what they saw.

There, in front of them, stood a rather funny-looking creature. It had blue skin, purple hair and rather sorrowful-looking eyes blinking in confusion at the children who sat open-mouthed in front of it. Its space helmet was covered in strange **polygons** and **symbols**.



“Thanks for saving me, kind earthlings! My name is Bertram from the planet Bertronus. I was flying through space when I saw this wonderful blue planet and wanted to take a closer look. I was entranced by some amazing, colourful explosions and **therefore** lost control of my ship. I’ve got to get back to my **cube-shaped** planet fast or I’ll be in real trouble!”

“Uh ... h ... hi,” stuttered Timmy. “Can we help at all?” Bertram nodded and explained, “The ship is powered by laughter and smiles. I stopped smiling when I saw all those explosions and now I’m far too depressed to re-fuel.”

Timmy and Ella thought for a **minute**. They told Bertram their best jokes but nothing happened. They regaled her with stories of Ella’s mischievous deeds, of when Timmy was a naughty little baby and the times when they both got fits of giggles in their classroom at school but still nothing. This went on for what felt like **infinity** but Bertram was just too miserable.

As the three of them made their way around to the other side of the hole, they felt a giant rumbling from underneath them and the cracking of earth around them. The ship was moving! They couldn’t believe it. Then, they heard laughter of the likes they had never heard before. It was a rip-roaring belly laugh. They turned around and saw Bertram rolling around on the floor in hysterics as the **symmetrical** ship made its way from the giant crater with its **surface area** covered in dirt and grass. They had never seen a such ship with such unusual **dimensions**.

“What’s so funny?” they asked simultaneously.



“HAHAHA!” Bertram cackled with glee. “I get it now! I get it! The joke you said earlier now makes sense! What kind of songs do planets sing? Neptunes! Hahaha! Neptunes. That’s brilliant.” Ella and Timmy looked at each other, shrugged and began to laugh themselves. Before long they had said their goodbyes and the ship vanished into the darkness.

“Where have you been?” asked their concerned mother looking at her **analogue** watch when they finally arrived back. “I’ve been worried sick!”

They chuckled to themselves and Ella replied, “Just chatting and feeling a bit ‘spaced out’ after all those hotdogs and chips mum,” and they turned to make their way home.

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“Thanks for saving me, kind earthlings! My name is Bertram from the planet Bertronus. I was flying through space when I saw this wonderful blue planet and wanted to take a closer look. I was entranced by some amazing, colourful explosions and therefore lost control of my ship. I’ve got to get back to my spherical planet fast or I’ll be in real trouble!”

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Maths Vocabulary *Reading Comprehension Questions*

1. 60 seconds

2. Type of time shown using a clock face

3. A 3D shape with two circular ends the same size

4. Negative temperature

5. Divide fairly

6. To go on forever, without end

7. Closed 2D shapes made of straight sides

8. 3D shape made up of squares

9. The total area of all the faces of a 3D shape

10. The corner of a 3D shape

11. 7 days

12. Part of a whole with a numerator and denominator

13. A sign using three dots ∴ which is the next logical step in an explanation

14. The measurements of a shape

15. Letters or shapes used to mean something in maths (e.g. +, -, x, = etc)

16. 3D shape with a circular base and a vertex / apex at the top.

17. A quadrilateral with two obtuse and two acute angles

18. When one side of a shape is a mirror image of the other

Greater Depth Extension

- Can you come up with a synonym for each of your answers?



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Maths Vocabulary Reading Comprehension Answers

1. 60 seconds

minute

2. Type of time shown using a clock face

analogue

3. A 3D shape with two circular ends the same size

cylinder

4. Negative temperature

minus 3 degrees

5. Divide fairly

shared equally

6. To go on forever, without end

infinite

7. Closed 2D shapes made of straight sides

polygons

8. A 3D shape made up of squares

cube

9. The total area of all the faces of a 3D shape

surface area

10. The corner of a 3D shape

vertex

11. 7 days

week

12. Part of a whole with a numerator and denominator

fraction

13. A sign using three dots ∴ which is the next logical step in an explanation

therefore

14. The measurements of a shape

dimensions

15. Letters or shapes used to mean something in maths (e.g. +, -, x, = etc)

symbol

16. 3D shapes with a circular base and a vertices / apex at the top.

cones

17. A quadrilateral with two obtuse and two acute angles

kite

18. When one side of a shape is a mirror image of the other

symmetrical

Greater Depth Extension

- Can you come up with a synonym for each of your answers?

Varied answers / Teacher to mark

