

Wednesday 13th May

Now we've watched a clip of Peter Pan, we're going to read this short extract from it. The story was originally a play written by James M Barrie in 1904 and then it was turned into a story a few years later. That means it's very old and so the language and the way it's written can be quite hard to understand.

It's a very famous story about a boy who never wants to grow up. He wants to stay as a boy forever. The story is pretty exciting and involved adventuring to an imaginary island, being able to fly, living in trees and fighting pirates. What's not to like? It's been made into films and TV shows and lots of versions of it have been written since the original.

Sometimes people talk about people being like Peter Pan because they try avoid growing up. Do you think that would be a good thing or not?

The text here comes from Chapter 3, when three children are in their bedrooms and Peter Pan is looking for his shadow, which doesn't always stay next to him:

For a moment after Mr. and Mrs. Darling left the house the night-lights by the beds of the three children continued to burn clearly. They were awfully nice little night-lights, and one cannot help wishing that they could have kept awake to see Peter; but Wendy's light blinked and gave such a yawn that the other two yawned also, and before they could close their mouths all the three went out.

There was another light in the room now, a thousand times brighter than the night-lights, and in the time we have taken to say this, it had been in all the drawers in the nursery, looking for Peter's shadow, rummaged the wardrobe and turned every pocket inside out. It was not really a light; it made this light by flashing about so quickly, but when it came to rest for a second you saw it was a fairy, no longer than your hand, but still glowing. It was a girl called Tinker Bell exquisitely gowned in a skeleton leaf, cut low and square, through which her figure could be seen to the best advantage.

A moment after the fairy's entrance, the window was blown open by the breathing of the little stars, and Peter dropped in. He had carried Tinker Bell part of the way, and his hand was still messy with the fairy dust.

"Tinker Bell," he called softly, after making sure that the children were asleep, "Tink, where are you?" She was in a jug for the moment, and liking it extremely; she had never been in a jug before.

"Oh, do come out of that jug, and tell me, do you know where they put my shadow?"

The loveliest tinkle as of golden bells answered him. It is the fairy language. You ordinary children can never hear it, but if you were to hear it you would know that you had heard it once before.

Tink said that the shadow was in the big box. She meant the chest of drawers, and Peter jumped at the drawers, scattering their contents to the floor with both hands, as kings toss ha'pence to the crowd. In a moment he had recovered his shadow, and in his delight he forgot that he had shut Tinker Bell up in the drawer.

We're going to do a RIC on the extract today.

R: Where did Tinker Bell look for Peter's shadow?

-
-
-

I: Why does Peter Pan 'call softly' to Tinker Bell?

C: The author has chosen some interesting and sometimes old fashioned words. Tick the correct meaning for each word or phrase.

awfully nice	terrible not good or bad lovely	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
rummaged	broken looked around in opened	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
exquisitely gowned	beautifully dressed extremely quick not carefully drawn	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

