

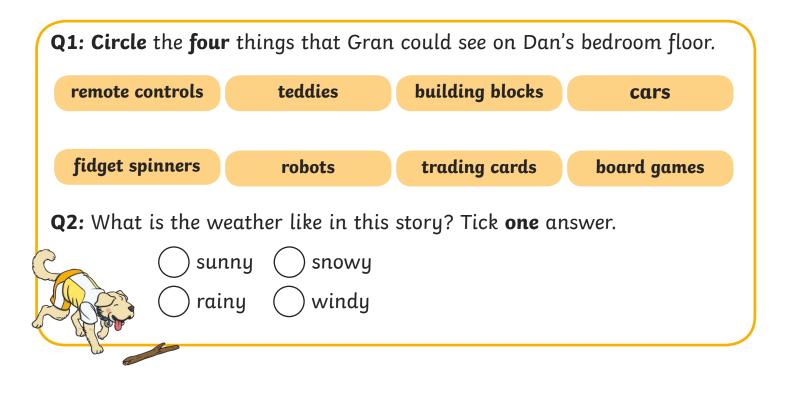
"Daniel! There are so many toys on this floor that I can't even see the carpet!" exclaimed Dan's gran crossly, when she came into his bedroom.

It was true. Bleeping robots, flashing cars, remote controls and building blocks of every shape, colour and size covered the ground. Dan sat glumly in the middle of the mess. Even though he had so many toys, Dan was bored.

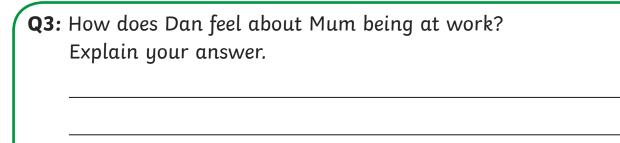
"I've played with all of them a hundred times Gran," he moaned. "It's raining and I've got nothing to do. When is Mum coming home?"

Gran put her arm around Dan. "Now, you know your mum has a lot of work on at the museum. She'd love to spend more time with you, but..."

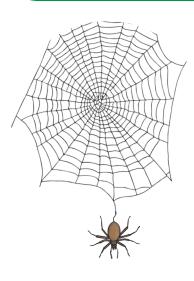
"I know," interrupted Dan. He wanted to say, "I just wish she cared as much about me as about that stupid museum of hers." But he didn't.







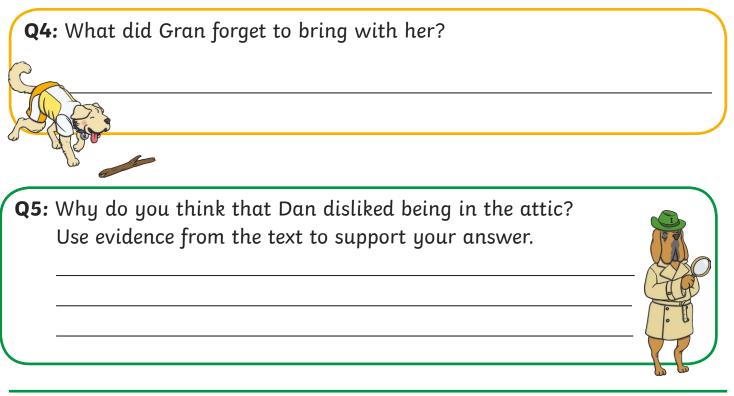




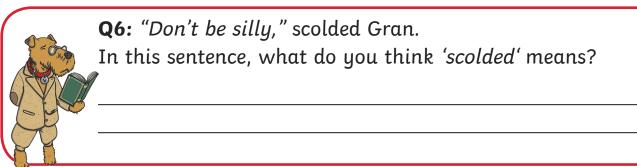
Just then Gran jumped up and from the way her face lit up, Dan knew she had an idea. "I've got just the job for you on a rainy day. It's time you helped me clear out the attic!" Dan moaned but he knew that, once Gran had an idea, there was no use arguing with her.

Dan had never been up in the attic before. Everything was covered in a thick layer of dust and cobwebs hung from the dark, sloped ceiling. "I don't like it up here, Gran. Can I tidy my room instead?" pleaded Dan.

"Don't be silly," scolded Gran "It just needs a little tidy up, that's all... Oh drat, I've forgotten the bin bags, won't be a minute!" Gran rushed down the ladder, leaving Dan alone in the attic.



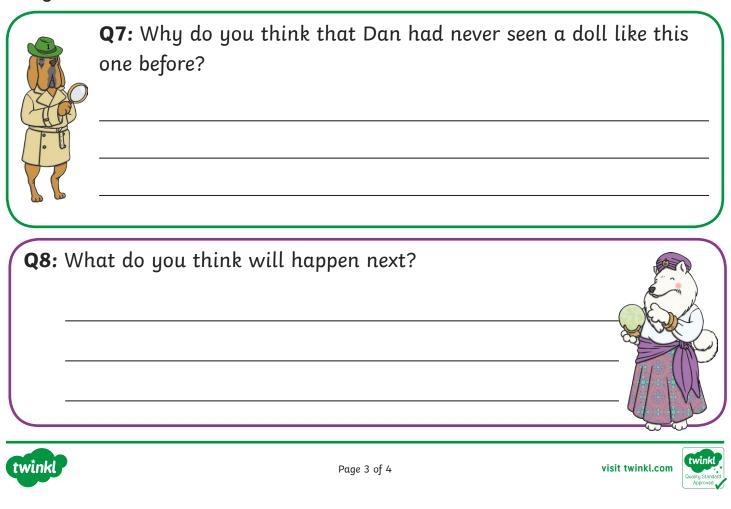




The tiny attic window was casting a slit of light on a large rectangular box. The light made the box look as if it was glowing. Dan walked towards it and, without thinking, he lifted the lid.

Inside was a beautiful china doll. She didn't look like any doll Dan had ever seen before. She had a pale, round face that looked hard and soft at the same time. She wore an old fashioned silk dress and had ringlets of hair that looked almost real. Her lips were painted red and her eyes were closed. As if spellbound, Dan picked her up. As he tipped her carefully forwards the eyes popped open, revealing bright blue glass. She looked as if she was about to speak. Dan almost laughed, nervously, at his own silliness.

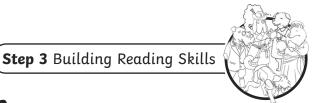
Just then, he heard the words "Hello boy. I am Lady Lucy. Who, may I ask, are you?"



- **Q9:** Number the following sentences to show the order that they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.
 - Gran put her arm around Dan.
 - Dan sat glumly in the middle of the mess.
 -) She looked as if she was about to speak.
 -) Dan had never been in the attic before.
 -) The light made the box look as if it was glowing.
 -) Inside was a beautiful china doll.

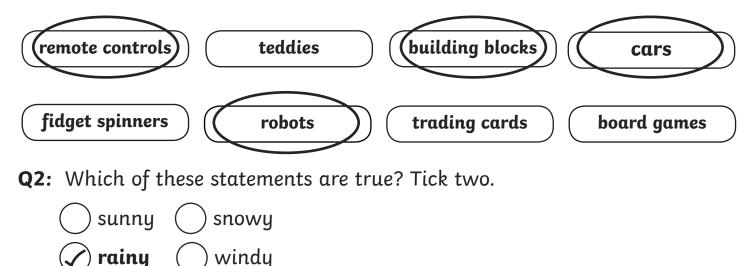






Terrific Toys and Games **Answers**

Q1: What country is this poem set in?



Q3: How does Dan feel about Mum being at work? Explain your answer.

Accept answers which discuss that Dan feels unhappy about Mum being at work because he feels as though she cares more about work (the museum) than she does about him, e.g. Dan feels unhappy that Mum is at work because he thinks she cares more about work than him.

Q4: What did Gran forget to bring with her?

Accept the answer 'bin bags' only.





Q5: Why do you think that Dan disliked being in the attic? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Accept answers which use reasonable evidence from the text to justify why Dan did not like being in the attic, such as:

- Dan might have been scared of spiders and there were lots of cobwebs in the attic.
- Dan might not have liked it in the attic because there was 'a thick layer of dust' and it could have been making him sneeze.
- Dan might have been scared of the dark and the attic had a 'dark, sloped ceiling'.
- **Q6:** *"Don't be silly,"* scolded Gran. In this sentence, what do you think *'scolded'* means?

Accept answers which relate the meaning of 'scolded' to 'told off', 'shouted at' or that Gran was speaking in an annoyed tone.

Q7: Why do you think that Dan had never seen a doll like this one before?

Accept any reasonable answer relating to the age and special appearance of the doll, e.g.

- This kind of doll was very special and not many people had a doll like this for Dan to look at.
- Dan might not have seen a doll like this because it was very old-fashioned and he had not seen many old-fashioned things.
- It might be because the doll is very unique and there is not another one like it where Dan lives.

Do not accept answers which state that it is because Dan does not play with dolls.





Q8: What do you think will happen next?

Accept any reasonable prediction based on the scenario previously unfolded, which would make sense in the context of the story, such as:

- Dan might shout his Gran to come and have a look at what he has found.
- Dan might start talking to the doll and tell her his name.
- Dan might put the doll away because he is scared and go out of the attic.
- Dan could take the doll downstairs and start to play with her.
- **Q9:** Do you think the poet might try to see the lights again? Explain your answer.
 - ²) Gran put her arm around Dan.
 - ¹) Dan sat glumly in the middle of the mess.
 - 6) She looked as if she was about to speak.
 - ³ Dan had never been in the attic before.
 - 4) The light made the box look as if it was glowing.
 - ⁵) Inside was a beautiful china doll.



