

'Street Child' Comprehension

Use the text to help you answer the questions below.

💡 If you see a light bulb next to the question, you will need to think about your own thoughts or opinions, based on what you have read.

1. Why can't Jim believe his luck on p.13?

He has found somewhere that gives him food in his belly and clothes without holes. The fire in the room is roaring and there are plenty of logs to put on it so it won't die out.

2. Why are hungry boys and skinny dogs hanging around the entrance of the meat pudding shop?

They are waiting for the scraps from the shop.

💡 3. How do you think Jim feels when he runs home with the pie?

Acceptable answers, e.g. He feels happy that he has got a pie to bring home, but he is also worried that he will be caught by the other children and the pie will be stolen from him.

4. What do we know about the place where Jim lives?

There are lots of families living there - so many that Jim is surprised that the walls and the floors don't tumble down.

5. Why is Jim worried about Ma?

She has been asleep for a few days now and he thinks that she isn't well.

6. Why do you think the children are 'longing for day to come'?

Acceptable answers, e.g. I think that the children are scared of the noises in the night and want the day to come so that they won't feel so worried.

7. How did the children know that the Stick Man was there, before he entered the room?

They heard his cane tapping on the floor.

8. What does the word 'hauled' mean on p.20?

It means to pull something up with effort or force.

9. What does Mr Spink think of Ma? Is he right to think that?



He thinks that she's just being lazy and staying in bed because she thinks she doesn't need to get up and work. He assumes that she's hiding money under the bedclothes and spends her day counting it. It isn't right that he thinks this about her because she's actually unwell and can't help staying in bed.

10. How long have the Jarvis family been in this room?

12 months

