Thistledown Lane

See You in Spring: Reading Comprehension

KS1 · Year 1 and Year 2

Free · with answers



- Year 1: a short retelling and 6 questions
- Year 2: the whole story and 9 questions, with reading domains
- Answers for both, and a mark scheme for Year 2

Watch the episode free at **thistledownlane.co.uk/episode-see-you-in-spring**

A gentle claymation series about kindness, friendship and the seasons on an English country lane.

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For grown-ups

How to use this pack

Two levels from the same story. **Year 1** is a short retelling with picture-friendly questions: tick, order and true or false. **Year 2** is the whole story as told in the episode, with questions tagged by KS1 reading content domain (1a to 1e) and a mark scheme. You can watch the episode together first, read it aloud, or use it as an independent reading task.

KS1 reading content domains

- **1a** draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts
- **1b** identify and explain key aspects of texts, such as characters, events and information
- **1c** identify and explain the sequence of events in texts
- **1d** make inferences from the text
- **1e** predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far

The story

Winter is here and it's time for Bramble's long cosy sleep, so all her friends come to say goodnight.

The lesson

Saying goodbye isn't forever. Friends keep you in their hearts while you're away.

Curriculum links

English, Year 1 and Year 2 reading comprehension: listening to and discussing stories, discussing word meanings, predicting, making inferences and checking the text makes sense. PSHE: friendship, saying goodbye, helping each other.

Year 1: See You in Spring

Name: _____





One night, it snowed on Thistledown Lane. Lilly and Moss were very excited. But Bramble gave a big yawn. She was very sleepy.

Mam came up the lane. “It’s time for the long sleep,” she said. Bramble had to make a nest under the hedge.

All her friends came to help. Barnaby dug the hollow under the hedge until it was big and deep. Pip brought leaves. Hazel brought dry bracken. Old Wren’s cousins brought soft moss.

It was the cosiest nest there had ever been. Moss was worried. “Will you be cold?” he asked. Mam said the leaves keep the cold out, like a big blanket.

Everybody said goodnight. Bramble climbed into her nest. She curled up into a little round ball, with just her nose peeping out.

“Will you look after everybody?” Bramble asked Old Wren. “Of course I will,” he said. Then everybody said softly, “See you in spring.”

Year 1 questions

Name: _____

1. What was the weather like?

   ☐ sunny ☐ snowy ☐ windy

2. Why did Bramble yawn?

   ☐ She was sleepy. ☐ She was hungry. ☐ She was cross.

3. Where did Bramble make her nest?

   ☐ in the old wall ☐ in a tree ☐ under the hedge

4. Who dug the hollow bigger?

   ☐ Barnaby ☐ Pip ☐ Lilly

5. Put these in order. Write 1, 2 and 3 in the boxes.

   ☐ Bramble curled up in her nest.

   ☐ Bramble gave a big yawn.

   ☐ Barnaby dug the hollow.

6. True or false?

   Bramble and Mam sleep in the same nest. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

   Hazel brought bracken. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

   Old Wren will keep watch all winter. **True** ☐ **False** ☐

Year 2: See You in Spring

Name: _____





In the night, very quietly, something had happened on Thistledown Lane. It had snowed. Soft, white snow, on the wall, and on the hedge, and on every single gatepost. “Snow! Real snow! Bramble, look!” said Lilly. “It’s up to my tummy!” said Moss.

“I love snow. It’s my favourite kind of weather. Bramble, do you want to…” said Sorrel. “Yes. I’d love to. I’d love to… to…” said Bramble. But Bramble never finished, because right in the middle of her sentence, she gave the biggest yawn anyone had ever seen.

“Bramble, are you falling asleep? Standing up?” asked Lilly. “No. Maybe. A bit. I’ve been so sleepy all week,” said Bramble. Just then, Mam came up the lane, with her shawl on, and a very gentle smile.

“I thought so. It’s time, love. It’s time for the long sleep,” said Mam.

“Already? But I haven’t made my nest,” said Bramble. “Then you’d better make it today. A good one. Under the hedge, with lots and lots of leaves,” said Mam. “We’ll help. Remember when I didn’t have anywhere to sleep, and you all helped me build my den?” asked Sorrel.

“We’ll build Bramble’s nest, just like that!” said Moss. “The best nest ever. The cosiest, leafiest nest in the whole world,” said Lilly. “Will you really? All of you?” asked Bramble.

“All of us. That’s what friends are for,” said Sorrel. So they all went along the lane to the big old hedge, where the roots made a little dry hollow underneath, out of the snow.

“Here. This is the place. It’s dry, and it’s quiet, and Mam’s going to be just along the hedge,” said Bramble. “But the hollow’s a bit small. And the ground’s ever so hard,” said Moss. And then, from down the lane, came a very familiar voice.

“Dig, dig, diggity!” said Barnaby. “Barnaby!” said Lilly. “I heard somebody needed some digging. Badgers are very good at digging. Stand back!” said Barnaby.

And Barnaby dug, and dug, until the hollow under the hedge was big, and deep, and just the right size for one round little hedgehog. Then everybody fetched leaves. Brown leaves, and gold leaves, and big dry crunchy ones. And then somebody else came along the lane.

“One little hop... and another little hop!” said Pip. “Pip! You came out in the snow!” said Bramble. “It’s only a bit scary. And I brought leaves. One little hop at a time,” said Pip.

“Wibble, wobble... ta-da!” said Hazel. And there was Hazel, standing very steady in the snow, with a great big mouthful of dry bracken. “Bracken’s the warmest. I should know. I sleep in it every night,” said Hazel.

And last of all, with a great twittering, down came Old Wren’s cousins, each one carrying the tiniest bit of soft moss. “Squeeze in, squeeze up! For Bramble!” said the cousins. And they put it all in. The leaves, and the bracken, and the moss, piled up and tucked in, until it was the cosiest nest there had ever been.

“Well. That is a very fine nest. Mine’s just along there. I can hear you if you snore,” said Mam. “Don’t you sleep together?” asked Lilly. “Hedgehogs each have a nest of their own. But I’ll be right next door, all winter long,” said Mam.

Moss looked at the snow. And he looked at the nest. And he looked at Bramble, and he had a worried little question. “Bramble... will you be cold? All winter? In the snow?” asked Moss. “No, Moss. That’s what all the leaves are for. They keep the cold out, like a great big blanket. And when a hedgehog sleeps, everything goes slow. Slow breathing. A slow, slow heartbeat. Snug as anything, until it gets warm again,” said Mam.

“And if I wake up for a little bit?” asked Bramble. “Then you turn over, and pull a leaf over your nose, and go back to sleep,” said Mam. “Then I won’t worry. Much,” said Moss.

And then it was time to say goodnight. “Goodnight, Bramble. I’ll keep thinking about you. Every day. Even when I’m forgetting everything else,” said Lilly. “Goodnight, Bramble. Thank you for my den. Now we’re even,” said Sorrel.

“Goodnight, everybody. Thank you for my nest,” said Bramble. And Bramble climbed into her nest, and turned round and round, the way hedgehogs do, and curled up into a little round ball, with just her nose peeping out. “Old Wren… will you look after everybody while I’m asleep?” asked Bramble.

“Of course I will. I’m a stayer. I’ll keep watch all winter long. And I’ll tell you everything that happened when you wake up,” said Old Wren. “And Skye will come back. And everybody will still be here,” said Bramble. “Everybody will still be here. We promise,” said Moss.

“Then… see you in spring,” said Bramble. And everybody said it together, very softly, so as not to wake her. See you in spring.

“Saying goodbye isn’t forever. Your friends keep you in their hearts, even when you’re far away. Or asleep. Goodnight. See you in spring,” said Bramble. And so, as the snow came down on Thistledown Lane, one little hedgehog slept, snug and warm, under the hedge. And all her friends were waiting for the spring.





Year 2 questions

Name: _____

1 Where did Mam say Bramble should make her nest? (1 mark) 1b

_____

2 The roots made "a little dry **hollow**" under the hedge. What is a **hollow**? (1 mark) 1a

☐ a tall tree ☐ a small dip or space in the ground ☐ a pile of snow

3 Look at the first page. Find and copy **one** word that describes the snow. (1 mark) 1a

_____

4 Name **two** friends who brought something for the nest, and say what each one brought. (2 marks) 1b

_____

_____

5 Number these events from 1 to 4. (1 mark) 1c

☐ Barnaby digs the hollow bigger.

☐ Bramble gives the biggest yawn.

☐ Old Wren promises to keep watch.

☐ Hazel brings a mouthful of bracken.

6 Sorrel says, "Thank you for my den. Now we're even." What does he mean? (1 mark) 1d

_____

_____

7 Moss says, "Then I won't worry. Much." What does the word **Much** tell you about how Moss feels? (1 mark) 1d

_____

_____

8 Lilly says she will think about Bramble "even when I'm forgetting everything else". Why does she say this? (1 mark) 1d

_____

_____

9 Old Wren says, "I'll tell you everything that happened when you wake up." What do you think will happen when Bramble wakes up in the spring? Use the story to explain. (1 mark) 1e

_____

_____

Answers

Year 1

1. snowy
2. She was sleepy.
3. under the hedge
4. Barnaby
5. 1 Bramble gave a big yawn. 2 Barnaby dug the hollow. 3 Bramble curled up in her nest.
6. False (hedgehogs each have a nest of their own; Mam's is just along the hedge); True; True

Year 2 (total 10 marks)

1. Under the hedge, with lots and lots of leaves.
2. a small dip or space in the ground
3. soft (accept: white)
4. Any two, 1 mark each (friend and thing): Pip, leaves; Hazel, dry bracken; Old Wren's cousins, soft moss. (Accept: Barnaby dug the hollow.)
5. Bramble gives the biggest yawn (1); Barnaby digs the hollow bigger (2); Hazel brings a mouthful of bracken (3); Old Wren promises to keep watch (4).
6. Bramble and the friends helped Sorrel build his den when he had nowhere to sleep, and now he has helped build Bramble's nest, so they have each helped the other.
7. He still feels a little bit worried about Bramble, but not very much.
8. Lilly often forgets things, but she will not forget Bramble. She will keep thinking about her every day.
9. Any sensible answer linked to the story, for example: all her friends will still be there, because Moss promised; Skye will come back; Old Wren will tell her everything that happened.