

Monday 8th June: Meerkat Mail - write a review

Today, I would like you to read the book Meerkat Mail. Read it twice or perhaps read it once and then watch it being read on youtube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=DcwuTRQ16MU. Then I would like you write a review of this book, using the checklist below. Don't forget to write in full sentences, using capital letters and full stops in the right places (perhaps an exclamation or question mark too).

- ✓ *Your likes*
- ✓ *Your dislikes*
- ✓ *Patterns you noticed*
- ✓ *Anything you found puzzling*
- ✓ *Who you would recommend this book to*

Tuesday 9th June: Meerkat Mail - comprehension questions.

Today, use Meerkat Mail to write sentences to answer these questions. This will help you to think carefully about the book and get to know it better.

1. *What different places does Sunny visit on his trip?*
2. *What different foods does Sunny he eat on his trip?*
3. *What different kinds of weather does Sunny experience?*
4. *What does he like on his trip?*
5. *What does he dislike?*
6. *Do you think Sunny enjoys his adventure? Why*
7. *What do you think Sunny learns on his trip?*

Wednesday 10th June: Meerkat Mail - collect information

I would like you to draw up a chart today to help you collect information about Sunny and what he does and does not like in the book. To do this, you will need to read the book again, looking for clues. Sometimes there will be sentences which tell you about Sunny's like and dislikes, sometimes you will need to read and imagine and sometimes you may need to use the illustrations to help you.

Sunny's Likes	Sunny's Dislikes
Beetles on toast	Too much heat

Thursday 11th June: Meerkat Mail - learn a postcard

Your challenge today is to choose one postcard (at least) and learn it off-by-heart. You could make up actions to help you remember specific words and you need to use expression in your voice as you say the words. Really think about how Sunny is feeling while he writes the postcard - how would he sound if he were saying his words out loud? You could use the youtube video to help you think about this: www.youtube.com/watch?v=DcwuTRQ16MU.

Learning part of a book off-by-heart in this way helps us when we come to do our own writing. I would love to hear audio clips or see videos of you performing your postcards! So, if you can - get your grown-up to record a short clip of your performance.

Friday 12th June: Write a Postcard

Today, I'd like you to use what you learned about your chosen animal from last week along with your imagination. Your challenge is to imagine you are an animal who goes on a holiday to somewhere very different from where they normally live. Write a postcard as if you are that animal. What would they say about the place they are visiting? Make sure you use some interesting expanded noun phrases to tell your reader about your surroundings.

Here are some options to inspire you:

- *a penguin visits a camel in the desert*
- *a tiger visits a polar bear in the arctic circle*
- *a dolphin visits a tiger in the jungle*
- *a tiger visits a penguin in Antarctica*

The Grammar Challenge:

Include **adjectives** before the **nouns** (things) to describe some details about the habitat. These are called **expanded noun phrases**.

Here is my own postcard:

Dear Mum and Dad

I arrived here in the Sahara desert yesterday. I was very tired from my **long journey** all the way from Antarctica but I was so excited to get here. In the middle of the night it was very cold and I felt right at home. There were millions of **twinkling stars** in the sky above me as I settled down for a long sleep. I woke up when the sun came up because I felt lovely and warm. I got hotter and hotter as the day went on and by lunch time I thought I would melt into a puddle! Kevin Camel took me to an oasis for a swim and it was so lovely to dive into the water after shuffling along on the **hot sand**. The water wasn't as cold as I was used to but it was nice to cool down a bit. On our way home, I sped across the sand dunes on my tummy just like I do on the ice! It felt hotter and rougher than the ice. The sun is just going down now and the sky looks amazing - it's pink, scarlet and orange! I'm looking forward to the cool of the night time and I'm missing our **icy home**.

I hope you are well.

Love,

Penny Penguin

- penguin
- polar bear
- dolphin
- tiger
- camel
- reindeer