

## Front Cover

### What do you think this book will be about?

- Example answer: I think the book will be about a group of animals who have to find a way to share the hedge.

### What is the title of this book?

- 'Don't Hog the Hedge!'

### Why do you think the author used the words 'hog' and 'hedge' in the title?

- Example answer: I think the author used the words 'hog' and 'hedge' in the title because they both start with the same letter.

### What does the word 'hog' mean? Where can you find the meaning if you don't know?

- The word 'hog' means take or use most of something in an unfair or selfish way.

### Who do you think is the main character?

- Example answer: I think the hedgehog is the main character because she stands out on the cover.

### How do you think the hedgehog is feeling? Why do you think that?

- Example answer: I think she is feeling worried/cold because she is holding her hands up to her mouth and showing her teeth.

## After Reading the Blurb:

### What does the illustration show?

- The illustration shows a hole in a hedge, a spider and some

toadstools.

### What time of year do you think the story is set in? Why do you think that?

- Example answer: I think the story is set in autumn because the leaves are brown.

### What does the word 'hibernation' mean?

- 'Hibernation' is when an animal sleeps through the winter months.

### What does the word 'unexpected' mean?

- 'Unexpected' means surprising, shocking or not expected.

### What do you think these visitors will do in the book?

- Example answer: I think they will help her make sure she has got food and warmth in her hedge.

## Deeper Reading:

### Do you think people would still choose to read the book if there wasn't a picture on the front cover? Why or why not?

- Example answer: I think that people would still choose to read the book because the title sounds funny.

### Have you read any other books about hedgehogs?

- Yes or no.

### What sort of text were they?

- Example answer: I read an information book about hedgehogs and I read a story called 'The Hodgehog' with my gran last summer.

## Reading Questions

### p. 1 What is Hattie doing? How do you know?

- Example answer: Hattie is rushing along. She is getting ready for her hibernation. I know this because it says, 'I haven't got time to play! I must finish my hibernation checklist.'

### Which season is the story set in?

- This story is set in autumn. I know this because it says 'half past September' which is in autumn. The illustrations show its autumn time too.

### p. 2 What clues can you find in the words and picture that show that the season has changed?

- Example answer: It says the leaves have got 'crispier' and the air has got 'colder', which happens in winter. The illustration shows Hattie settling down for the Big Sleep and this is hibernation.

### p. 3 Why does the author use the word 'grumbled'? What other clue tells us how Hattie is feeling?

- Example answer: The author uses the word 'grumbled' to show that Hattie is feeling fed up about the dormice waking her up. The illustration gives us a clue about how Hattie is feeling. She looks very cross.

### p. 4 Why do you think Dylan tells Hattie that her home is beautiful before he asks her if they can stay there with her?

- Example answer: I think Dylan tells Hattie that her home is beautiful so that she lets them stay with her.
- I think Dylan tells Hattie that her home is beautiful because he is kind.

### p. 6 How is Hattie feeling when she lets the dormice stay in her hedge? Why do you think that? Are the dormice feeling the same way?

- Example answer: I think Hattie is feeling worried when she lets the dormice stay. I think she feels like that because she doesn't want them to make a mess and disturb her. She is tired and ready to go to sleep. I think the dormice are feeling very excited, which is the opposite to Hattie.

### p. 7 Why does the author use the word 'thud' to describe Toby the Toad's movements? Why is that important for this story?

- Example answer: I think the author uses the word 'thud' to describe Toby the toad's movements to show that he is big and heavy.

### p. 10 Look at Hattie's body and face in this illustration. What is the illustrator trying to tell us about Hattie's mood? Why might she be feeling like this?

- Example answer: I think the illustrator is trying to show us that Hattie is cross with the other animals. She might be feeling like this because she doesn't want to share her hedge.

### Why does she make Toby 'promise not to leap around too much'?

- Example answer: She makes the other animals promise not to leap around too much because there isn't a lot of room in the hedge.

### p. 11 It is cramped in the hedge now. Find two clues in the story that tell us this.

- The story tells us that Hattie 'budded up closer to the dormice to give Toby more room'.
- Or 'The hedge may have been very short of space now but it was much cosier than before.'

## Deeper Reading:

### Look at the AR on p.1. How does this help us work out when the story is set?

- It helps us to work out when the story is set because it shows leaves falling off trees which happens in autumn.

### I wonder how Hattie is feeling after Toby calls her a hero and the dormice thank her.

- I think Hattie would be feeling really proud of herself.

### Why is her mood changing?

- Hattie's mood is changing because she is starting to like having the other animals there/ because she likes the other animals/ because the other animals like her.

### What is the author trying to get us to think about?

- I think the author is trying to make us think about being a good friend/sharing/being kind/helping others.

## Reading Questions

**p. 13** What does the word 'happily' tell you about how Hattie is feeling?

- The word 'happily' tells me that Hattie is now feeling glad to have some company.

**Can you find an extended noun phrase that tells you that Hattie is ready to start her Big Sleep?**

- tired little eyes

**p. 15** Can you find an example of alliteration on this page?

- Snuggly and safe is an example of alliteration.

**p. 16** Which words has the author used to show that Hattie really doesn't mind sharing her hedge?

- Yeah, yeah, yeah! You don't need to ask, Your Majesty/Just come on in and make yourself at home.

**p. 17** The author calls the animals 'a squashed-up bunch'.

**Can you find some other words that tell you it is very squashed in the hedge?**

- 'Hattie's spikes tickled Toby's toes and everyone was trying hard to avoid Queen Beatrice's sting.'

**p. 18** Which word tells us that Billy is upset?

- sobbed

**p. 19** Why does the author describe Hattie's behaviour as 'unexpected'?

- The author uses the word 'unexpected' because this behaviour

is surprising. Hattie didn't want to share her hedge but now she is giving it up for her new friends.

**p. 22** Can you find any adjectives that show how Hattie is feeling when Dexter says they should find somewhere new that is big enough for all of them?

- warm and fuzzy

**Deeper Reading:**

**In your own words, can you describe Hattie at the beginning and at the end of the story?**

- Example answer: At the beginning of the story, Hattie is grumpy and doesn't want to share her hedge for the Big Sleep. At the end of the story, she is friendly and kind and has learnt to share her home with her friends.

**p. 23** Look at Hattie's checklist. How has it changed? Can you use this idea to explain the meaning of the story?

- The meaning of the story is that it is very important to have friends/ it is better to have friends and share things with them than be alone and keep things to yourself.

**Can you think of an alternative title for the story? Why have you chosen that?**

- An alternative title could be 'Hattie the Hedgehog Makes New Friends'.
- I have chosen that because it shows that the story is about a hedgehog and that it is a story about friendship.

## Reading Questions

**How does the story start?**

- The story starts with Hattie the Hedgehog in a rush. She is trying to get ready for her Big Sleep.

**Which character is introduced first?**

- Hattie the Hedgehog is introduced first.

**Who came to Hattie's hedge first?**

- Dexter, Doris and Dylan, the dormice, come to the hedge first.

**Who came to Hattie's hedge next?**

- Toby the Toad comes to Hattie's hedge next.

**On which page does Hattie's prickly mood start to change?**

- Hattie's prickly mood starts to change on page 11.

**Who does Hattie meet straight after this page?**

- Hattie meets Queen Beatrice straight after this page.

**How is Hattie's behaviour different from p.13 onwards?**

- After p.13, Hattie is more friendly and happy to share her hedge with her new friends.

**Were you surprised by the ending? Is it what you expected?**

- Children's own answers. Example answers: I was surprised by the ending because I thought Hattie would get fed up and go

and find her own place to sleep.

- OR I wasn't surprised because I knew Hattie was changing and she wanted to be with her friends.

**Deeper Reading:**

**Look back through the book. Can you find any words that tell you the order things happened in?**

- just as, then, eventually, just as soon

**What do you think is the most important event in this story?**

- Children's answers will vary. Example answer: I think the most important event in the book is when Hattie steps out of the hedge to make room for Billy.

**Can you think of any other characters who change during the story?**

- Children's answers will vary, but may include: Pinocchio, the Frog Prince, Beauty and the Beast

**Do you think Hattie has learnt a lesson or do you think she will go back to her selfish ways? Explain your answer.**

- Children's answers will vary. Example answer: I think Hattie has learnt her lesson and she will be kind to others from now on. I think this because she has changed in the story and she has added friends to her checklist.