

Gliop at the Park

It was late one Thursday when Gliop was **hurtling** towards Earth. The spaceship was spinning in circles, out of control and the buttons and controls were flashing like the lights on an ambulance. Gliop did not know what to think. He was racing towards a strange, **unknown** planet covered in blue and green sections. He wasn't sure whether to be scared or to be excited. His hearts (he had three in his body) were all beating faster and faster and he didn't know how to slow them down.

The spaceship started to wobble from side to side as it gained speed. Suddenly Gliop's spaceship crashed with a large thud into the surface of the Earth. Gliop let out a little cry of delight – he had made it!



Steam and smoke spread from the **triangular-shaped** spaceship, with a green liquid **oozing** from the underneath. Gliop knew by looking at the ship that it would be hard to fix.

Looking up around him Gliop began to take in his **surroundings**. What a beautiful place. He had landed in a large grassed area and there was a small human looking at him with a **puzzled expression**.

“Hello,” she said. “I’m Emily, what’s your name?”

“Gliop,” Gliop replied. “Where am I? And what is this green place I’ve landed on?”

“You’re not from around here, are you?!” asked Emily. “This is a park and you have landed on Earth. I’m going to play on the slide, come along!”

Gliop followed Emily, his six legs making it easy to catch up to her. Emily climbed up a large slide on the side of the hill. Up and up she went. Up and up Gliop went. When at the top Emily asked Gliop to push her down the slide. “Push?!” Gliop asked. “What do you mean?”

“Push,” Emily **repeated**. She held her hands up together and did a pushing action towards the alien. He **responded** by copying her, except he was just pushing thin air.

“Nooooo, silly, push ME!” Emily demanded. With a little push from Gliop, Emily **hurtled** down the slide, off the end and nearly into the sandpit!



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Gliop at the Park – 2a – Text

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“Wow!” Emily laughed. “That was a big push!” It was Gliop’s turn. He sat at the top of the slide and repeated the action Emily had taught him putting his arms out in front of him and pushing, but nothing happened. He tried again and again with no luck. He didn’t move a centimetre. When Emily caught up to him at the top of the slide, she gave him a huge push. Down he went with a huge grimace on his face! “Yaaaaaaaaaaaaah!” Gliop yelled. When Emily met Gliop at the bottom of the slide she realised he was looking at something. The climbing frame.

“What’s this?” Gliop asked.

“A climbing frame, you can hang upside down on it and pull your way up. I will show you what to do,” with that Emily got onto the climbing frame. “You can pull with your arms and push with your feet to climb on the top!” She showed him a pushing and a pulling motion. Gliop looked back at her with confusion.

Gliop hopped onto the climbing frame and raced Emily to the top. “Look, I have been pushing AND pulling,” he smiled.

From the top of the climbing frame you could see the whole park and the houses beyond. Gliop was amazed at the view. This was the first real look he’d had of Earth, and he liked it. Emily jumped from the top of the climbing frame and Gliop followed. He landed on his bottom with a bump. “Why do we go down when we jump off?” He asked.

Emily, who was sat on the grass next to him replied, “My dad says it is gravity.”

“Gravity? I haven’t heard of that – is that something you can eat?”

“No!” laughed Emily. “It’s a type of pull. All things on Earth are pulled by something called gravity. It stops us from flying off into space!” explained Emily.

Gliop was confused. He didn’t understand why floating off into space was a bad thing. After all he spent all of his time floating around space and hopping from planet to planet.

“These pushes and pulls are called forces,” said the little girl. “We have lots of them here on Earth and they make things move. You didn’t go down the slide until I pushed you. I made you move by using a force on you. Neat, eh?”

“Are there anymore of these force things I should know about?” asked Gliop. He realised that this was very unlike any planet he had visited.

“Lots!” replied Emily. With that she jumped up from the grass and starting running towards home. Gliop following in tow.

By Laura Baggley

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Gliop at the Park – 2a – Text

Gliop at the Park – Oral Teacher Questions

What was happening at the beginning of the story? (AF2) **An alien has a broken spaceship and it is crashing to Earth.**

Were you surprised by the ending? What did you think was going to happen? (AF4) **Personal response. The end of the story happens abruptly. The child may have predicted that the alien would like to stay and play with the girl or the alien would fix his ship and fly back home. We don't find out in the story.**

Find a powerful verb at the beginning of the story. Why do you think the author used this word? (AF5) **Hurling, spinning, racing. Words that create some drama at the beginning of the text to interest the reader.**

What features of the text tell you that it is a story? (AF7) **Speech is used throughout the story. The context is fictional – using a character that does not exist.**

Has the author put any words in capital letters? Why do you think they have done this? (AF4) **'AND' This is the part of the speech that the author wants the reader to stress.**

How do you know that Gliop is an alien at the beginning of the story? (AF3) **He is in a spaceship. He has three hearts and six legs.**

How does the author try to engage the reader and make you want to read on? (AF4) **By creating drama at the beginning of the story. The spaceship is hurtling towards Earth. It is very dramatic.**

When and where is the story set? How do you know? (AF7) **Present day in a park. Emily says, "This is a park and you have landed on Earth."**

How does the author indicate speech? (AF5) **By using speech marks/inverted commas.**

What did you learn about the spaceship in the story? (AF5) **It was triangular-shaped, it was broken and crash-landed on Earth.**

How is the character talking when it says 'Emily demanded'? (AF5) **Demanded means that it was asked with authority and a stern voice.**

What did you enjoy most about the story? (AF6) **Personal Response. Hopefully the children will have enjoyed the story and can give reasons why they enjoyed it.**

Gliop at the Park – Follow Up Work

What was happening at the beginning of the story? (AF2)

Were you surprised by the ending? What did you think was going to happen? (AF4)

Find a powerful verb at the beginning of the story. Why do you think the author used this word? (AF5)

What features of the text tell you that it is a story? (AF7)

Has the author put any words in capital letters? Why do you think they have done this? (AF4)

How do you know that Gliop is an alien at the beginning of the story? (AF3)

How does the author try to engage the reader and make you want to read on? (AF4)

When and where is the story set? How do you know? (AF7)

How does the author indicate speech? (AF5)

What did you learn about the spaceship in the story? (AF5)

How is the character talking when it says 'Emily demanded'? (AF5)

What did you enjoy most about the story? (AF6)

Write the meaning of each of the words. (AF2)

hurtling _____

unknown _____

triangular-shaped _____

oozing _____

surroundings _____

puzzled _____

expression _____

repeated _____

responded _____

hurtled _____

grimace _____

motion _____

confusion _____

gravity _____

confused _____

after all _____

Gliop at the Park – Vocab 1

Write the meaning of each of the words. (AF2)

hurtling – moving at high speed without control

unknown – unfamiliar

triangular-shaped – shaped like a triangle

oozing – a slow trickle, seeping out of

surroundings – the things that surround something

puzzled – unable to understand

expression – facial expression, how someone looks, showing emotion

repeated – to do something again and again

responded – to say something in reply

hurtled – moved without control but with speed

grimace – scowl or wince

motion – movement

confusion – to be unsure or unclear

gravity – a force that pulls things towards the centre of the Earth

confused – as confusion, to be unsure of something

after all – in spite of

Task A

Choose the right antonym for the purple word by circling the right one.

grimace

scowl

smile

laugh

confused

clear

unclear

puzzled

Task B

Choose the correct word from the list below to fit in the following sentences.

gravity

hurtled

surroundings

motion

grimace

puzzled

Looking up around him Gliop began to take in his _____.

Down he went with a huge _____ on his face!

“My dad says it is _____.”

She showed him a pushing and a pulling _____.

He had landed in a large grassed area and there was a small human looking at him with a _____ expression.

Emily _____ down the slide, off the end and nearly into the sandpit!

Task A

Choose the right antonym for the purple word by circling the right one.

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Task B

Choose the correct word from the list below to fit in the following sentences.

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Looking up around him Gliop began to take in his **surroundings**.

Down he went with a huge **grimace** on his face!

“My dad says it is **gravity**.”

She showed him a pushing and a pulling **motion**.

He had landed in a large grassed area and there was a small human looking at him with a **puzzled** expression.

Emily **hurtled** down the slide, off the end and nearly into the sandpit!

Gliop at the Park – SPAG

Verbs

Each sentence below has a missing verb. Select the best verb for each sentence.

visited drew ran drove jumped

The girl _____ to school because she was late.

The car _____ around the car park.

One day, the family _____ a zoo.

Last week I _____ a picture for my mum.

The dog, who was fast, _____ over the fence.

Nouns

Sort the nouns below into the table.

London table Sally chair car home sofa

dress Mike Bristol Microsoft iPad television carpet

Proper Nouns	Common Nouns

Gliop at the Park – SPAG

Verbs

Each sentence below has a missing verb. Select the best verb for each sentence.

visited drew ran drove jumped

The girl **ran** to school because she was late.

The car **drove** around the car park.

One day, the family **visited** a zoo.

Last week I **drew** a picture for my mum.

The dog, who was fast, **jumped** over the fence.

Nouns

Sort the nouns below into the table.

London table Sally chair car home sofa

dress Mike Bristol Microsoft iPad television carpet

Proper Nouns	Common Nouns
iPad London Sally Mike Bristol Microsoft	table chair car home sofa dress television carpet