

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Fiction Text - The Midnight Thunderstorm

*CRASH!* "What was that?" Chrissy cried, waking suddenly from a deep sleep. She sat upright in her bed, clutched tightly to her teddy and stared anxiously around the bedroom. It was completely black. Rain pounded heavily on the bedroom window, making Chrissy wonder how she had even been able to sleep in the first place. Nervously, she threw back the covers and tiptoed over to her big sister's bed. She often complained about sharing a room with Julia, but tonight she was secretly thankful for her presence. Chrissy hated thunderstorms.

"Julia? Are you awake? Julia?" Chrissy gently shook her big sister's shoulders.

"No, I'm not," Julia mumbled sleepily. "Go back to bed, Chrissy."

"I can't sleep," Chrissy replied. "Please, can I lie with you for a while? Thunderstorms are so scary."

Julia opened one eye and smiled. "They're not scary," she said. "Just noisy. Noise can't hurt you, Chrissy. Now go back to bed."

*CRASH!* Chrissy shrieked and jumped into her sister's arms. Julia laughed. "You really aren't very brave, are you?"

Chrissy shook her head. "So can I stay?"

Julia nodded gently. "But no snoring. And no stealing all the blankets. Deal?"

"Deal," Chrissy replied. She dove under the covers and closed her eyes. Julia's hair smelled like apples. Finally feeling safe, Chrissy sighed contentedly. She listened to the melodious music of rain on her rooftop and gradually drifted back to sleep.



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## The Midnight Thunderstorm - Comprehension Tasks

### Before you read - Predicting

Use the title and picture to predict what you think this text is going to be about. Discuss your ideas with your teacher and classmates.

### As you read - Monitoring and Clarifying

Highlight any words or phrases that you do not understand in the text. Discuss the possible meanings of these words with your teacher and classmates.

### As you read - Visualising

As a class, brainstorm some of the sights, sounds and smells in Chrissy and Julia's bedroom during the thunderstorm.

### As you read - Inferring

Discuss these statements with your teacher and classmates.

- How does Chrissy feel during the thunderstorm? How do you know?
- Do you think Julia is scared of thunderstorms? Why or why not?
- Do you think Chrissy and Julia have a good relationship? Why or why not?

What might happen when Chrissy and Julia wake up in the morning?

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### After you read - Summarising

The main idea of a text can be described as the topic that a text is mostly about. What is the main idea of the text, *The Midnight Thunderstorm*?

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## Non-Fiction Text – All About Thunderstorms

A thunderstorm is a storm with thunder and lightning. There is often heavy rain during a thunderstorm. Thunderstorms are electrical storms that usually happen in the spring and summer months. They can occur singularly, in clusters, or in lines.

Thunderstorms happen when warm, moist air quickly moves upwards. This causes clouds to form and creates gusty winds, heavy rain and sometimes hail. During a thunderstorm, there is usually very heavy rain. This can last for a few minutes, or for much longer.

The loud sound that thunder makes is caused by the heat of the lightning that happens before you hear the thunder. Sometimes the sound of thunder can last for several seconds. This is because the thunder echoes around the ground, mountains, hills and buildings.

Some of the worst thunderstorms happen when a single thunderstorm stays in one area for a long time.



Vasin Lee/Shutterstock.com

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## All About Thunderstorms - Comprehension Tasks

### Before you read - Making Connections

Write down what you already know about thunderstorms in the first column of the table below. Discuss your ideas with your teacher and classmates.

What do I already know?	What did the text teach me?

### As you read - Monitoring and Clarifying

Highlight any words or phrases that you do not understand in the text. Discuss the possible meanings of these words with your teacher and classmates.

### As you read - Visualising

As a class, brainstorm some of the sights, sounds and smells described in the text.

### As you read - Questioning

Discuss these questions with your teacher and classmates.

- When do thunderstorms usually happen?
- What causes thunderstorms to form?
- Why does the sound of thunder last for a few seconds?

Are thunderstorms dangerous? Write a sentence explaining what you think.

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## All About Thunderstorms - Comprehension Tasks

### After you read - Summarising

The main idea of a text can be described as the topic that a text is mostly about. Write a paragraph to summarise the text, *All About Thunderstorms*.

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Now that you have read the text, go back and fill in the second column of the table on the previous page.

### Creative activity

Using the sights, sounds and smells from both texts, draw your own colourful picture of a thunderstorm in the box below.

