



BOOK THEMES:

- Friendship

LESSON OBJECTIVES:

- To understand what bullying is
- To understand how to prevent bullying
- To use similes and metaphors to enhance character description



INTRODUCTION:

Read the extract to the children, or encourage the children to read the extract to themselves. Ask the children to discuss with their talking partners how they would describe the relationship between the BFG and the other giants. Are they friends? Draw out that the other giants are bullying the BFG.

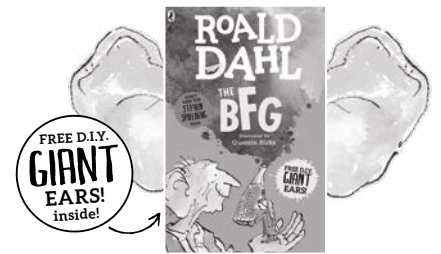
TASK ONE: DEALING WITH BULLIES

Provide pairs of children with copies of the extract. Ask them to work together to underline or highlight all the parts of the extract where the BFG is being bullied. Choose children to share the examples they have found, while you record these on an interactive whiteboard/flipchart, organizing the examples into different lists (one for **verbal bullying** and one for **physical bullying**) without explaining what you are doing. Can the children spot why you have put the examples on different sides of the board? Can they work out what the headings of the two lists should be?

Put the children into small groups and ask them to imagine that they are Sophie. Can they come up with suggestions for the BFG as to what he could have done to avoid this bullying situation? Can they think of anything he could do to avoid being bullied in the future?

Draw the class together and discuss how individuals can respond to bullying. You may wish to refer to the bullying policy in your school during this discussion. Make sure the children are aware of a range of appropriate courses of action (depending on the level of bullying experienced), e.g.:

- Responding with humour
- Walking away
- Finding a different friend to play with
- Telling a teacher
- Telling a parent or guardian
- Speaking up on behalf of other children



TASK TWO: MY FROTHBUNGLING BULLY

Roald Dahl's description of the bullying Bloodbottler is truly terrifying! Read it aloud to the children, asking them to make notes of any images that really stick out to them.

His foul face was round and squashy-looking. The eyes were tiny black holes. The nose was small. But the mouth was huge. It spread right across the face almost ear to ear, and it had lips that were like two gigantic purple frankfurters lying one on top of the other. Craggy yellow teeth stuck out between the two purple frankfurter lips, and rivers of spit ran down over the chin. It was not in the least difficult to believe that this ghastly brute ate men, women and children every night.

Discuss Roald Dahl's use of language in this passage. For example:

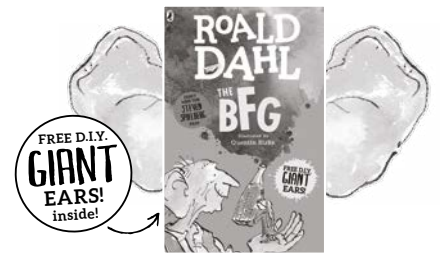
- Why does he describe the Bloodbottler's drool as 'rivers of spit'? (Using the metaphor of a river emphasizes his size and the sheer amount of saliva!)
- Why does he use the adjective 'craggy' for the teeth? (Craggs are associated with mountains – which again emphasizes the Bloodbottler's size. 'Craggy' also makes his teeth sound as though they are jagged and broken – perhaps through fighting, or through chewing human bones!)
- Did the children spot the simile in the description?

Challenge the children to invent a really nasty bully using the **MY FROTHBUNGLING BULLY** worksheet (see resources). What would they look like? (**Link to Session 1 on judging by appearances:** remember – just because someone is a nasty person doesn't mean that they will look nasty on the outside!) How does their bully behave? Who are their bully's victims? Ask the children to use the worksheets provided to help them to write a character description of their bully, thinking carefully about the effect of the vocabulary that they choose.

PLENARY:

Ask the children to come up with three top tips for dealing with bullies.

MY FROTHBUNGLING BULLY



Notes about how my bully looks:

e.g. his hair is 'long and dark and tangled'; his eyes are 'tiny black holes'.

Objects/animals to which I could compare my bully's appearance:

e.g. a bear, a mountain.

Similes and metaphors I could use:

e.g. he loomed above me like a grizzly bear; he had 'craggy yellow teeth' (like a mountain).

Notes about how my bully behaves:

e.g. he is greedy; he has no manners.

Objects/animals to which I could compare my bully's behaviour:

e.g. a vulture; cold metal.

Similes and metaphors I could use:

e.g. his words tore into me like a vulture's sharp beak; his heart was a cold lump of iron.



EXTRACT ONE

From Chapter Eleven: 'Journey to Dream Country'

'Here comes the runty one!' boomed the Fleshlumpeater. 'Ho-ho there, runty one! Where is you splatch-winkling away to in such a hefty hurry?' He shot out an enormous arm and grabbed the BFG by the hair. The BFG didn't struggle. He simply stopped and stood quite still and said, 'Be so kind as to be letting go of my hair, Fleshlumpeater.'

The Fleshlumpeater released him and stepped back a pace. The other giants stood around, waiting for the fun to start.

'Now then, you little grobsquiffler!' boomed the Fleshlumpeater. 'We is all of us wanting to know where you is galloping off to every day in the daytime. Nobody ought to be galloping off to anywhere until it is getting dark. The human beans could easily be spotting you and starting a giant hunt and we is not wanting that to happen, is we not?'

'We is not!' shouted the other giants. 'Go back to your cave, runty one!'

'I is not galloping to any human bean country,' the BFG said. 'I is going to other places.'

'I is thinking,' said the Fleshlumpeater, 'that you is catching human beans and keeping them as pets!'

'Right you is!' cried the Bloodbottler. 'Just now I is hearing him chittering away to one of them in his cave!'

'You is welcome to go and search my cave from frack to bunt,' the BFG answered. 'You can go looking into every crook and nanny. There is no human beans or stringy beans or runner beans or jelly beans or any other beans in here.'

Sophie crouched still as a mouse inside the BFG's pocket. She hardly dared breathe. She was terrified she might sneeze. The slightest sound or movement would give her away. Through the tiny peep-hole she watched the giants clustering around the poor BFG. How revolting they were! All of them had piggy little eyes and enormous mouths with thick sausage lips. When the Fleshlumpeater was speaking, she got a glimpse of his tongue. It was jet black, like a slab of black steak. Every one of them was more than twice as tall as the BFG.

Suddenly, the Fleshlumpeater shot out two enormous hands and grabbed the BFG around the waist. He tossed him high in the air and shouted, 'Catch him, Manhugger!'

The Manhugger caught him. The other giants spread out quickly in a large circle, each giant about twenty yards from his neighbour, preparing for the game they were going to play. Now the Manhugger threw the BFG high and far, shouting 'Catch him, Bonecruncher!'

The Bonecruncher ran forward and caught the tumbling BFG and immediately swung him up again. 'Catch him, Childchewer!' he shouted.

And so it went on. The giants were playing ball with the BFG, vying with each other to see who could throw him the highest.



