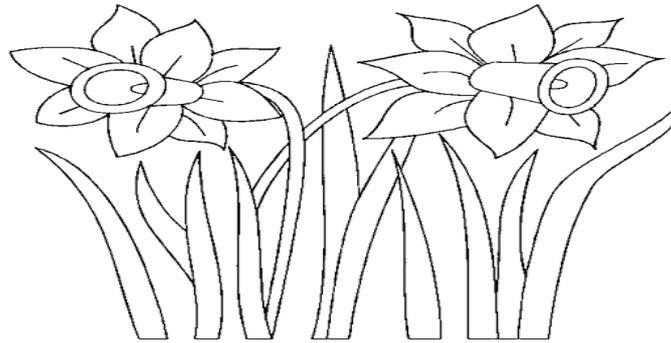


The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Work for Year 6 Reading group



The work is organised into lessons of approximately 30-40 minutes each.

The robin shows where to take a break, it denotes the work for the next day.

Read Chapter One

In Chapter One Mary is described as 'The most disagreeable-looking child' with a 'sour expression' What do you think this means?

This book is written in 1911 The language is from that period in history. So 'gay people' on page one refers to Happy people.

Mem Sahib, is the Mistress or, Lady of the House.

Look up the meaning of:-

Fretful	page 1	
Tyrannical	page 1	
Governess	page 3	
Veranda	page 3	
Disdaining	page 3	

P2 Can you explain why Mary was 'tyrannical' by the age of 6, give a quote to back up your answer?

P3 Why do you think Mary 'called her mother Mem Sahib most often?'

Her eyes lifted imploringly- what does this show?



Read Chapter Two

P14 Find Yorkshire on a map of the UK. Look up images of Yorkshire countryside, especially moorland. How different this must have been for Mary, coming from India!

P15 Mrs Medlock looked 'discomforted by her apparent indifference' can you describe what this means?



Read chapter 3

P24 'Mary never felt quite so contrary in all her life.' What does Mary feel? Why is this phrase used?

Find the meaning of these fabulously old fashioned words!

P25 cinders	
obsequious	
servile	
Impudent	



Read Chapter 4

P26 Why does Martha like the Moor?

Characters so far, can you join them up?

Mary Lennox

Master of Mistlethwaite Hall

Mrs Medlock

Main character. Young girl, sent from India to live with her uncle

Mr Archibald Craven

House keeper (chief of servants) of Mistlethwaite Hall



At page 34, What is your impression of Mary now and why do you think this?

P43 What do you think Ben Weatherstaff thinks on meeting Mary?

[Read Chapter 5](#)



P46 Ben Weatherstaff was too surly, how does this describe Ben's manner?

P50 What questions do you have about **how** or **why** Mrs Craven died? Remember the book is written in 1911 and medicine/ medical care was very different to nowadays.

[Read Chapter 6](#)

Who or what do you think is crying?



Two days work;

[Read up to chapter 10 page 91](#)



Why does Mary like the Secret Garden? For what reasons?

In Chapter 10 page 100, Why do you think Dickon talks *easily* to Miss Mary?

P102/3 Why do you think Mary decides to show him the garden?



[Read chapter 11 and 12](#)



Chapter 13

P126, what is a rebellious mood?

P129 What do you think about Colin now, and what is the matter with him? Why does he stay in his room?

P132 What similarities do you notice in the following?

How Colin talks about himself?	
How Mary spoke about herself when she first arrived?	



Read Chapter 14

P141 List the *secrets* Mary has now?

Read up to chapter 21

P212 Spring as Golden Trumpets refers to 'Herald of Spring' the coming of Spring.

Read Wordswoths Poem 'Daffodils' practise reading it aloud to some one at home.



Read chapter 21

P221 Why does the author write 'And so they were safe?'

P221 'Mother thinks maybe shes about Mistlethwaite many a time', what is the author trying to suggest?



P226 'Do you know who I am?' Why is Colin able to speak to Ben like this?

P227 'Thin as a lath. White as a wraith.' wraith is an old word for ghost, lath= thin sliver of wood.

Read Chapter 22



P235 Why does Colin say, 'Help me up Dickon, I want to be standing when it goes. That's part of the Magic. What is the Magic?

Where do you think the name Dickon came from. Think of famous authors that would have been known in 1911?

Read up to Chapter 25



P255 How are the children, 'protecting themselves from suspicion?'

P258 Why do you think Colin doesn't want to 'throw a tantrum now?'

P264 What are Mary and Colin, 'growing fat on?'

Read Chapter 25 and 26



P275 What does Colin mean when he says, 'I'm well, I'm well!'

P276 Why do they all stand and remove their caps?

P293 Why do you think Susan (a lowly cottager) decided to write to Archibald Craven, The Lord of the Manor?

P295 What feelings is Mr Craven having on his way back to Mistlethwaite Hall?

P300 Can you say what was The most dramatic event of Mistlethwaite Manor and why did Ben want to be 'on the spot?'

