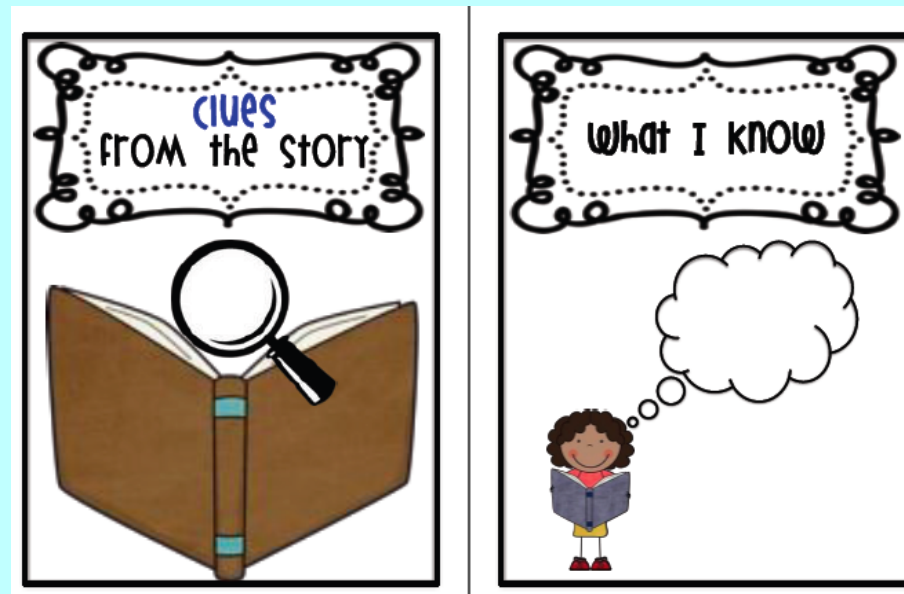


Wednesday 24th February

L.O: To draw inferences from a text

Today we are going to be using our inference skills. This is where we have to 'read between the lines' and use clues from the text to come up with an idea or conclusion.

What is inference?



### Example of an inference question:

Barney's heart fluttered and his legs felt funny as if he had nearly fallen off his branch, though he was clinging on with all his might. That man had gone into Granny's house when he *shouldn't* have. He must be a thief! He would take all the silver and drive off with it in his car! And Barney was all alone up in the tree, and though he could see the countryside for miles around he couldn't see a human being except the tractor driver, fields and fields away. There was no one who could help in time.

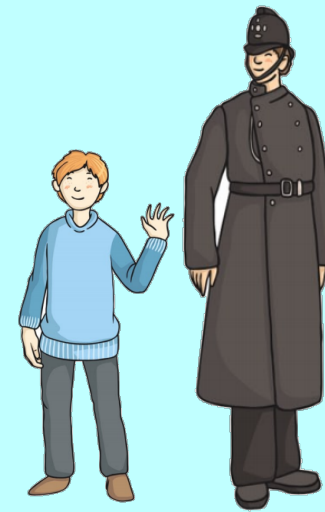
How do you think Barney is feeling?

Barney is feeling shocked and scared because it says in the text his heart fluttered and his legs felt funny.

On the next few slides are some extracts of text taken from Chapter six, where Barney has an encounter with a policeman. Read through the extracts carefully and think about the following questions:

Do you think the policeman believes Barney about Stig? Why?

How do you think Barney is feeling?  
How do you know?



The policeman was trying to write all this down in a notebook, but when he got to the part about skinning and burying the car he stopped writing and looked hard at Barney.

‘You wouldn’t be making this up, would you son?’ he asked sternly.

‘I’m afraid my grandson has a very strong imagination,’ said Granny.

‘But I’m telling the truth, Granny! *I promised!*’ said Barney.

‘Perhaps the little boy would like to show me where this, er, alleged treasure is, ma’am,’ suggested the policeman.

‘Yes, yes!’ cried Barney. ‘It’s just down the lane. Come on!’ And he took the policeman by the hand and pulled him through the front gate, and down the lane, explaining as he went.

'Listen to me, young Barney,' said the policeman. 'When I was a youngster I used to have what your Granny calls a strong imagination too. Used to play cops and robbers, and I can tell you it was a lot more exciting and a lot more fun than being a real copper, which I am now. So I'm not blaming you – understand? You *imagined* you had a fight with two robbers, see? You *imagined* this bit of old junk what's been here for years was a car that went over the



cliff. Isn't that it? You wasn't telling lies, because you thought it was true. But that's it, isn't it? It never really happened, eh?'

Barney stood there dumbly. If a grown-up said so, and such a kind grown-up, and a policeman too, perhaps you could imagine fights with robbers and cars going over cliffs. Perhaps he just *imagined* Stig. He was looking miserably into the darkness of the pit and was just about to nod his head and agree with all the policeman was saying when he saw in the far corner of the pit a flicker of light. Stig's den!

He scrubbed away some tears that had got into his eyes and said firmly: 'It *did* happen. And I know where the treasure is.' And he went scampering away along the gloomy bottom of the pit towards the den.



Questions to consider:

Do you think the policeman believes Barney about Stig? Why?

How do you think Barney is feeling?  
How do you know?





Your task: write down what the policeman and Barney might be thinking during their encounter. Use your inference skills and clues from the text to help you with your ideas.

Example:

