

Author and Me: Q'Lock Holmes Practice Activities

Night Time Visitors

There were trees behind Jamie's house. Jamie's dad helped Jamie, Marcus and Kate build and paint a tree fort.

"It's perfect," said Jamie. "All we need are snacks." Marcus brought cookies. Kate and Jamie brought apples. They stored them on a shelf in the fort.

The next morning, the snacks had disappeared! Instead of apples and cookies, they found only apple seeds and cookie crumbs.

"Who ate our snacks?" asked Jamie.

"We've got to find out," said Kate.

They put peanut butter crackers and three peaches on the shelf.

"Maybe they'll come back," said Jamie. "Let's spy from my kitchen window, once it gets dark." That night, Jamie, Marcus and Kate watched from the window. They shined their flashlights at the tree fort.

Then they saw it. Something climbed up the tree. Another something followed it.

"Raccoons!" said Marcus.

"That's who ate our snacks!"

Before You Read:

Consider what you've learned about "In My Head: Author and Me" questions from the video.

Remember, these types of questions are NOT directly stated within the text. They require the use of clues and prior knowledge when answering them.

What are the signal words stated in the "In My Head: Author and Me" questions that will help you look for clues within the text as you read.

Think about how you will use this QA4 strategy to answer questions about what you read.

Please read the story and answer the following questions:

1. How might Jamie, Marcus, and Kate keep the raccoons from visiting again?
2. If you were going to design the tree fort of your dreams, what would it include?

Compare your answers with **Josie's Think Aloud**.

Swimming Surprise

Shawn lived in an apartment in a busy city. He was going to summer camp for the first time. As he packed his suitcase,

he checked off the items on the camp list.

"Swim trunks?" Shawn read. "There wasn't a pool at camp when we visited last fall."

A few days later, Shawn and his parents arrived at the camp. Shawn saw the horses, craft center, baseball diamond, and lots of kids, too. "This looks so fun!" Shawn said.

Then, he asked his camp counselor about swimming.

"We swim in the lake," said the counselor. "In fact, there are others swimming in it right now."

Shawn was excited about the crystal blue lake, but he didn't see any swimmers. "Who's swimming in it right now?" he asked.

"Fish!" said the counselor.

Please read the story and answer the following questions:

1. How is swimming in a lake different from swimming in a pool?
2. If you were going to summer camp, what is one item you'd be sure to pack? Why?

Compare your answers and thought process with **Kiam's Think Aloud**.