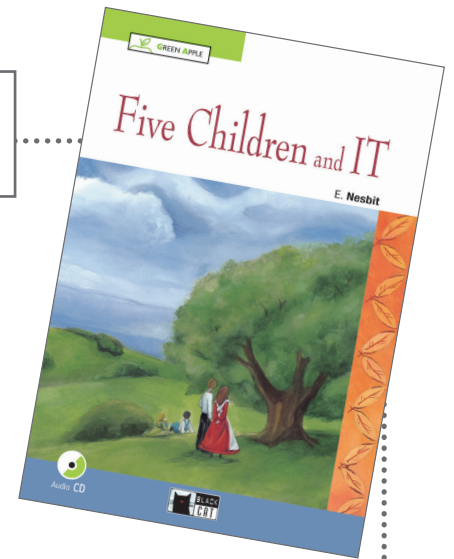


# LESSON PLAN

## 1/4



## FIVE CHILDREN AND IT

- Aim:**
- to develop reading skills and expand vocabulary
  - to practice speaking skills and giving opinions
  - to predict the continuation of a story
  - to identify a literary genre
  - to encourage the pleasure of reading

**Level :** A1

**Time :** 50 minutes

- Materials:**
1. front cover illustration of the graded reader **FIVE CHILDREN AND IT**
  2. worksheet

### INTRODUCTION

This lesson plan introduces **Five Children and It**, a wonderful fantasy story centered around five children who want to make wishes, but don't realize that some wishes can bring big trouble! **Five Children and It** was recently selected as one of the best fantasy stories by an international magazine! Everyone likes making wishes and this makes the story immediately popular. The short extracts chosen will draw students into the plot, encourage them to ask questions, develop their vocabulary and predict what will happen next. All of this with the aim of increasing their pleasure in reading.

### BACKGROUND NOTES ON THE STORY

Five children—Anthea, Jane, Cyril, Robert and Lamb, the baby—are going to spend their holidays in the country with their parents and their nanny, Martha. After a few days they get bored and go and play in the gravel pit near the house. The gravel pit is actually a big sand hill. They bring their buckets and spades and start to dig in the gravel pit. Suddenly they hear a voice in the sand and see a strange little creature. It has the eyes of a snail, the ears of a bat, the hands and feet of a monkey and the body of a spider. The children are very surprised because they don't know what it is. Jane asks, 'Can we take it home?' And the creature says, 'Do you always say silly things?'

### DISCUSSION

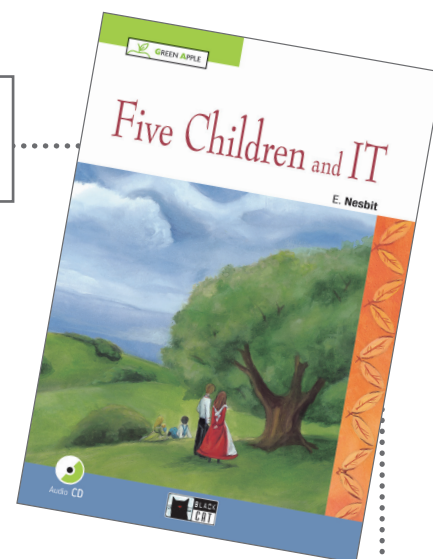
At this point, there are some questions that must be answered.

- a. What is the strange creature that the children find in the gravel pit?
- b. Will this strange creature hurt the children?
- c. Will the children go and tell their parents about the strange creature?
- d. Why does the creature speak?



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## LESSON PLAN 2/4



### PROCEDURE

#### Before the lesson

- make a copy of the worksheet (one per student)
- tell your students you're going to be speaking about a book called **Five Children and It**
- read the background notes on the story to the class
- write the title of the graded reader on the board

#### First Step (10 minutes)

- Ask the students to comment on their first impressions and ask them these questions.
- What genre do you think it is? Why?
  - Show the students the cover illustration and ask them this question:
    - Where are the children?
    - Then show them the illustration on page 10 and ask them these questions:
      - How do the children feel at this moment?
      - What does the strange creature look like?

#### Second step (30 minutes)

- Give the students the worksheet and explain that the text comes from Chapter One of the story.
- Ask them to do **Exercise 1, Before you read** [KEY: 1d, 2e, 3a, 4f, 5b, 6c, 7g]
  - Ask them to work in pairs to check their answers.
  - Read **Exercise 2, EXTRACT PART 1**. You could read it out loud the first time to make the dialogue more dramatic.
  - Then ask the students to read it alone or in pairs for a more detailed understanding the second time.
  - Ask students to comment with their opinions, predictions, feelings and observations.
  - Ask students to **EXTRACT PART 2** and do **Exercise 3**.

#### Last step (10 minutes)

- Ask students to do **Exercises 4 and 5**. These exercises can be done in small groups. If there is not enough time in class, they can be done as written homework.

