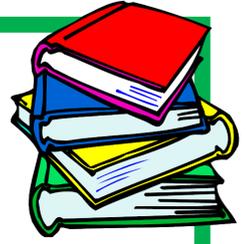




Week Commencing 27.4.20



LO: To answer retrieval questions

The Rats of Franchville

Newtown, or Franchville, as it was called in days of old, is a sleepy little town upon the Solent shore. Sleepy as it is now, it was once noisy enough. What made the noise? Rats. The place was so infested with them that it was scarcely worth living in.

There wasn't a barn, a storeroom or a cupboard that rats hadn't eaten their way into. There was not a wheel of cheese that they had not gnawed hollow, nor a bag of sugar they hadn't emptied. Even the wooden barrels of mead and beer were not safe from them; they'd gnaw a hole in the rim and lower themselves down while holding on to another rat's tail.

However, eating produce was not their worst trait. Between the squeaking and shrieking and the hurrying and scurrying, you could neither hear yourself speak nor get a wink of good honest sleep. Not to mention that mothers across the town had to keep watch over their baby's cradle all night long to prevent a big ugly rat from running across the poor little fellow's face and doing who knows what mischief.



V I P E R S



1. What were residents of Newtown unable to do? Tick **two**.

- stand guard
- sleep and rest
- hear themselves speak
- leave the town

2. Give one historic name for the town of Newtown.

3. Give three reasons why residents of Newtown despised the rats.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. Tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

Statement	True	False
Rats lowered themselves into barrels of oil.		
Mothers stayed up all night long to protect their babies.		
The rats would hollow out loaves of bread.		
Residents could not abide the shrieks and squeaks.		



Week Commencing 27.4.20



LO: To answer retrieval questions

The Woodman's Wishes

Legend tells that, many years ago, a poor woodman lived in a great forest, felling timber every day of his life. One day, as she had done many times before, the woodman's wife filled his satchel with food and drink to keep him sustained throughout his day at work. The woodman ambled through the forest and marked out a huge, old oak tree for felling. He took his axe in his hand and swung it around his head in such a way that it almost looked as if he would fell the tree in one stroke. With moments to spare before hitting the tree, the woodman heard a pitiful cry and there, stood before him, appeared a fairy, begging him to spare the tree.

Dazed with wonderment and fright, the woodman was unable to utter a single word. Minutes passed before he felt able to speak and agreed to honour the fairy's request. "You've done better for yourself than you know," answered the fairy, "and to show I'm not ungrateful, I'll grant you your next three wishes, whatever they may be." With that, the fairy disappeared before the woodman's eyes.



V I P E R S



1. What did the fairy beg for? Tick **one**.

- The woodman's wife's assistance
- A new home for her family
- The tree to be spared
- The woodman to head home

2. What did the woodman's wife regularly do?

3. Tick the correct option to complete the sentence.

The text begins with the woodcutter...

- Ambling through the forest
- Returning homeward
- Felling a great oak tree
- Dazed with wonderment

4. Tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

Statement	True	False
The woodman's food was prepared by his children.		
The woodman had chosen to fell an oak tree.		
A pitiful cry stopped the woodman's wife in her tracks.		
The fairy accompanied the woodman home.		