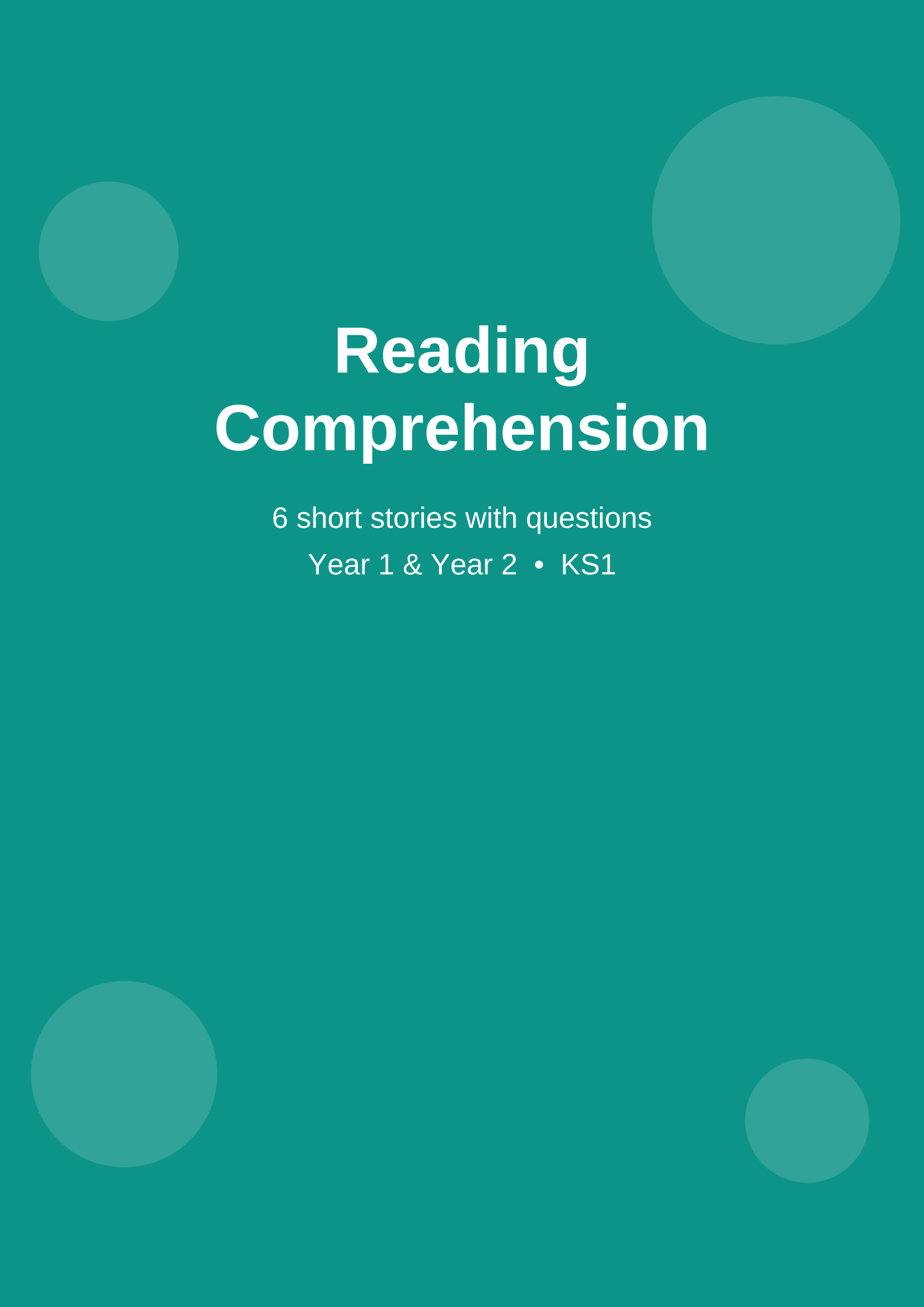


The background is a solid teal color. There are four large, semi-transparent circles of the same teal color positioned in the corners: top-left, top-right, bottom-left, and bottom-right.

Reading Comprehension

6 short stories with questions
Year 1 & Year 2 • KS1

The Lost Mitten

Story Year 1 • Read the story, then answer the questions

It was a cold morning. Zara put on her red hat and her blue scarf.

She ran to the park with her mum. The grass was white with frost.

Zara made a snowball. Then she looked at her hands. Oh no! One mitten was gone!

She looked under the bench. She looked by the gate. At last, she saw something red in the snow. It was her mitten!

Zara smiled and put it on. Now both of her hands were warm.

Questions

1. What colour was Zara's scarf?

2. Where did Zara go with her mum?

3. What did Zara lose?

4. Where did she find it in the end?

5. How do you think Zara felt when she found her mitten? Why?

Tom and the Big Fish

Story Year 1 • Read the story, then answer the questions

Tom went to the sea with Grandad. Grandad had a long fishing rod.

They sat on the rocks and waited. The sea was calm and blue.

Suddenly, the rod went bend, bend, bend! Tom held on tight.

“Pull, Tom, pull!” said Grandad. Out of the water came a big silver fish. It splashed and jumped.

Tom and Grandad laughed. They took a photo, then they put the fish back in the sea.

Questions

1. Who went fishing with Tom?

2. What colour was the sea?

3. What happened to the fishing rod?

4. What did they do with the fish at the end?

5. What do you think Tom will tell his friends about his day?

The Hungry Kitten

Story Year 1 • Read the story, then answer the questions

Milo was a small grey kitten. He lived in a house with a girl called Priya.

One day, Milo was very hungry. His bowl was empty.

He went to the garden. He saw a butterfly, but he could not eat a butterfly!

He went to the kitchen. Priya was there. "Here you are, Milo," she said, and she filled his bowl with food.

Milo ate it all up. Then he curled up on Priya's lap and went to sleep.

Questions

1. What is the kitten's name?

2. What colour is Milo?

3. Why did Milo go to the garden?

4. Who gave Milo his food?

5. Put these in order: Milo sleeps. Milo's bowl is empty. Priya fills the bowl.

The Night the Stars Fell

Story Year 2 • Read the story, then answer the questions

Leo loved looking at the night sky. Every evening, he stood at his bedroom window with his telescope and counted the stars.

One October night, something amazing happened. A bright light raced across the sky. Then another, and another! “Mum! Dad! Come and see!” Leo shouted.

His parents hurried upstairs. Together, they watched the meteor shower. Silver streaks flashed and faded above the rooftops.

“Make a wish,” said Mum, smiling. Leo closed his eyes tightly. He wished that one day he could travel to the stars himself.

The next morning, Leo drew a picture of the shooting stars in his notebook. Underneath, he wrote: “The best night ever.”

Questions

1. What did Leo use to look at the stars?

2. In which month did the meteor shower happen?

3. Why did Leo shout for his parents?

4. What did Leo wish for?

5. What does the word “raced” mean in the story?

6. What do you think Leo will do when he grows up? Use clues from the story.

Sana Builds a Den

Story Year 2 • Read the story, then answer the questions

On Saturday morning, Sana had a brilliant idea. She was going to build the best den in the whole garden.

First, she dragged two chairs onto the grass. Next, she pulled an old blanket over the top and tucked the corners under heavy books. Then she fetched cushions, her torch, and a pile of comics.

Just as she crawled inside, her little brother Arjun appeared. “Can I come in?” he asked. Sana sighed. The den was only small. But Arjun was holding a plate of biscuits, so she grinned and lifted the blanket.

All afternoon, they read comics by torchlight and munched biscuits in their cosy den. “This is the best den ever,” said Arjun. Sana had to agree.

Questions

1. On which day did Sana build her den?

2. What did Sana put over the chairs?

3. How did she stop the blanket from blowing away?

4. Why did Sana let Arjun into the den?

5. What does the word “fetched” mean?

6. What might Sana and Arjun build next weekend? What makes you think that?

The Lighthouse Keeper's Cat

Story Year 2 • Read the story, then answer the questions

Old Mr Finch was the lighthouse keeper on Gull Rock. Every night, he climbed the winding stairs to light the great lamp, so that ships could find their way safely through the dark.

His only friend was a stripy cat called Biscuit. Biscuit followed him everywhere — up the stairs, along the rocks, and even into the tiny kitchen where Mr Finch made his tea.

One stormy night, the wind howled and the waves crashed against the rock. Suddenly, the lamp went out! Mr Finch grabbed his toolbox and hurried up the stairs. Biscuit raced ahead, stopping at a loose wire on the third step. “Clever cat!” said Mr Finch. He fixed the wire, and the lamp blazed bright again.

Far out at sea, a ship's captain saw the light and steered safely home. Mr Finch gave Biscuit an extra saucer of milk. “We make a good team,” he said.

Questions

1. Where does Mr Finch work?

2. What is the cat called?

3. Why did the lamp go out on the stormy night?

4. How did Biscuit help Mr Finch?

5. What does the word “blazed” mean in the story?

6. Why was the lighthouse lamp so important? Give two reasons.

Answer Key

For parents and teachers

The Lost Mitten

1. blue
2. the park
3. a (red) mitten
4. in the snow
5. happy/relieved — because her hands were warm again / she had found what she lost

Tom and the Big Fish

1. Grandad
2. blue (calm and blue)
3. it bent (a fish was pulling it)
4. they put it back in the sea
5. accept any sensible answer, e.g. that he caught a huge fish

The Hungry Kitten

1. Milo
2. grey
3. he was hungry and his bowl was empty (looking for food)
4. Priya
5. 1. Milo's bowl is empty. 2. Priya fills the bowl. 3. Milo sleeps.

The Night the Stars Fell

1. a telescope
2. October
3. to show them the meteor shower / shooting stars
4. to travel to the stars one day
5. moved very fast
6. accept inference backed by clues, e.g. an astronaut — he loves stars and wished to travel to them

Sana Builds a Den

1. Saturday
2. an old blanket
3. she tucked the corners under heavy books
4. because he brought biscuits (and she was kind)
5. went and got / brought
6. accept any sensible answer with a reason

The Lighthouse Keeper's Cat

1. in a lighthouse on Gull Rock
2. Biscuit
3. there was a loose wire
4. he found/showed the loose wire on the stairs
5. shone very brightly
6. so ships could see the way / so ships didn't crash on the rocks

For prediction and inference questions, accept any answer your child can support with clues from