

# BookBuzz



Arden's Library Newsletter – Issue 29

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To ease all pupils into BookBuzz competitions for the new academic year, this issue features a quiz about the ever popular Roald Dahl books. When you've completed the questions, don't forget to add your **NAME** and **FORM** and return to the Library by **Wednesday 2 November**. There will be prizes!

1. At the start of Esio Trot, how long does it take for Alfie the tortoise to double in size? 5, 10, 20 or 30 years
2. Matilda uses her willpower to tip something over Miss Trunchbull. What is it? .....
3. The Grandma in The Witches was missing which part of her body? A leg, a thumb, an ear or an arm
4. In Matilda, was Nigel Hicks's father: a doctor, a policeman, a dentist or a lawyer?
5. In James and the Giant Peach, who cut the stem holding the peach to the tree: the centipede, the grasshopper or the glow-worm?
6. In The Twits which character had a glass eye? .....
7. In Danny The Champion of the World, what name did Danny give the wooden go-kart his father made for him: Soapo, Whizzo, Speedo or Whammo
8. At the end of Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator, Charlie and his family are invited to the house of which world leader? .....
9. According to Willy Wonka, Vermicious Knids live on what planet: Venus, Vermes, Andros Seven or Hermes?
10. George changed his Medicine Number Three into Medicine Number Four by adding two ingredients. Can you name either of them? .....
11. People from which country in Britain taste fishy according to the giant in The BFG? .....
12. In Fantastic Mr Fox, what was the name of the chicken farmer? .....
13. In Dirty Beasts, what creature pulled a lever on its shell to turn into a different creature? .....
14. What was the name of Matilda's brother? .....
15. In The Magic Finger, Mr Gregg smashed the family's guns into small pieces using what tool? .....
16. Which book contains a recipe for Luminous Lollies for Eating in Bed at Night? .....
17. What was the name of the boy who found the first Golden Ticket to visit Willy Wonka's chocolate factory? .....
18. In Esio Trot, how many pet shops were there in the city where Mr Hoppy lived? 12, 14, 18 or 21



**NAME:**..... **FORM:** .....

To celebrate National Poetry Day  
on **Thursday 6 October**...here's a  
favourite poem from Roald Dahl

## Television

The most important thing we've learned,  
So far as children are concerned,  
Is never, NEVER, NEVER let  
Them near your television set --  
Or better still, just don't install  
The idiotic thing at all.  
In almost every house we've been,  
We've watched them gaping at the screen.  
They loll and slop and lounge about,  
And stare until their eyes pop out.  
(Last week in someone's place we saw  
A dozen eyeballs on the floor.)  
They sit and stare and stare and sit  
Until they're hypnotised by it,  
Until they're absolutely drunk  
With all that shocking ghastly junk.  
Oh yes, we know it keeps them still,  
They don't climb out the window sill,  
They never fight or kick or punch,  
They leave you free to cook the lunch  
And wash the dishes in the sink --  
But did you ever stop to think,  
To wonder just exactly what  
This does to your beloved tot?  
IT ROTTS THE SENSE IN THE HEAD!  
IT KILLS IMAGINATION DEAD!  
IT CLOGS AND CLUTTERS UP THE MIND!  
IT MAKES A CHILD SO DULL AND BLIND  
HE CAN NO LONGER UNDERSTAND  
A FANTASY, A FAIRYLAND!  
HIS BRAIN BECOMES AS SOFT AS CHEESE!  
HIS POWERS OF THINKING RUST AND FREEZE!  
HE CANNOT THINK -- HE ONLY SEES!  
'All right!' you'll cry. 'All right!' you'll say,  
'But if we take the set away,  
What shall we do to entertain  
Our darling children? Please explain!  
We'll answer this by asking you,  
'What used the darling ones to do?  
'How used they keep themselves contented  
Before this monster was invented?'  
Have you forgotten? Don't you know?  
We'll say it very loud and slow:  
THEY ... USED ... TO ... READ! They'd READ and  
READ,  
AND READ and READ, and then proceed  
To READ some more. Great Scott! Gadzooks!  
One half their lives was reading books!  
The nursery shelves held books galore!  
Books cluttered up the nursery floor!

And in the bedroom, by the bed,  
More books were waiting to be read!  
Such wondrous, fine, fantastic tales  
Of dragons, gypsies, queens, and whales  
And treasure isles, and distant shores  
Where smugglers rowed with muffled oars,  
And pirates wearing purple pants,  
And sailing ships and elephants,  
And cannibals crouching 'round the pot,  
Stirring away at something hot.  
(It smells so good, what can it be?  
Good gracious, it's Penelope.)  
The younger ones had Beatrix Potter  
With Mr. Tod, the dirty rotter,  
And Squirrel Nutkin, Pigling Bland,  
And Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle and-  
Just How The Camel Got His Hump,  
And How the Monkey Lost His Rump,  
And Mr. Toad, and bless my soul,  
There's Mr. Rat and Mr. Mole-  
Oh, books, what books they used to know,  
Those children living long ago!  
So please, oh please, we beg, we pray,  
Go throw your TV set away,  
And in its place you can install  
A lovely bookshelf on the wall.  
Then fill the shelves with lots of books,  
Ignoring all the dirty looks,  
The screams and yells, the bites and kicks,  
And children hitting you with sticks-  
Fear not, because we promise you  
That, in about a week or two  
Of having nothing else to do,  
They'll now begin to feel the need  
Of having something to read.  
And once they start -- oh boy, oh boy!  
You watch the slowly growing joy  
That fills their hearts. They'll grow so keen  
They'll wonder what they'd ever seen  
In that ridiculous machine,  
That nauseating, foul, unclean,  
Repulsive television screen!  
And later, each and every kid  
Will love you more for what you did.



It's worth checking out Roald Dahl's **'Dirty Beasts'** which features among others **'The Pig'**, **'The Crocodile'** and **'The Tummy Beast'**. There's also **'Revolting Rhymes'** in which **'Cinderella'**, **'Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf'** etc are given the unique Dahl treatment!