The Ancient Egypt Sleepover by Stephen Davies

Age 7-9



Reasons for selection and synopsis

Mo has won a very special prize: an Ancient Egypt sleepover in a museum. However, he has no clue how dangerous it will turn out to be.

With a mystery to solve, hieroglyphic codes to crack and priceless treasure to save, one thing is for sure: Mo will not be getting any sleep tonight!

Before reading...

Ask the children to look at the front cover. What do you think the book will be about? What things can you see on the front cover?

What might the character be running away from or running to?

What sort of story will it be? Who might enjoy it?

Now read the blurb – were any of your predictions correct?

The following questions are designed as prompts only – allow the children to come

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary Infer Predict Explain Retrieve Sequence or Summarise



up with their own questions and ideas. They will be much more engaged this way.

1	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if something is a 'once in a lifetime opportunity'?
	What does it mean if people are ' <i>jostling</i> ' with others?
	What is an 'attraction'?
	What does it mean if the door is 'revolving'?
Infer	Find evidence which suggests Mo's father was tired.
	How do you think Mo felt when he saw the British Museum for the first time?
	Why do you think not a lot of people knew about what was in the exhibition?
Predict	Predict whether Mo and the freckly boy will become friends.
Explain	Explain why the author called this chapter 'Sunset'.
Retrieve	Which road did they head up north on?
	What was a man with a flat cap selling?
	Find 3 places they had visited in London.
	What attraction was the whole country talking about?
	How much money had the museum spent on the exhibition?
	Who was leading the exhibition?
	What is Mo's full name?
Summarise	Summarise the freckly boy in one word. Then, explain why you chose this word.

2	
Vocabulary	What is a ' <i>souvenir</i> '?
	What does it mean if the museum is 'mind-boggling'?
Infer	What did Kelvin mean by "Just a Mo?"
	Find evidence which shows Mr Lamb was happy to greet the winners of the competition.
	Why do you think the children showed enthusiasm for Mr Rumpole?
Predict	Predict what the 'greatest moment in archaeology' could be.
Explain	Explain why Mo was at the National History Museum.
Retrieve	Which souvenir did Mo get from Lords cricket ground?
	Which cricket team does Mo play for?
	Where was the crowd of children?
	How many entries did the museum receive for the writing competition?
	Which job did Miss Kenton have?
	Who had come all the way from Oxford University?
	What should the children do once they've found their flag?
Summarise	Summarise Mr Lamb in one word. Then, explain why you chose that word.

3	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if an object has 'majesty'?
	What does it mean if you're trying to ' <i>decipher'</i> something?
Infer	Why do you think Kelvin took his arm off Sennefer?
	Find evidence which shows the tall, freckly boy was quite rude.
	Why do you think Mo's heart sank?
	Why did Mo and Kelvin look at each other surprised?
Predict	Predict what Mo and Kelvin might do next.
Explain	The chapter ends with the sentence 'The sneeze must have come from
	inside the coffin'. What impact does this sentence have on the reader?
Retrieve	Why did the gallery need to be big?
	What was the robe covered with?
	Who was Sennefer?
	Which game did Debbie want to play on her phone?
	What was the freckly boy's name?
Summarise	Summarise Kelvin in one word. Then, explain why you chose that word.

4	
Vocabulary	Find out what a 'sarcophagus' is.
	What does it mean if you are 'curious' about something?
	What does it mean if you 'scold' someone?
	What does it mean if you ' <i>devote your life'</i> to something?
Infer	Find evidence which shows Kelvin was nervous talking to the coffin.
	Why do you think Kelvin looked 'startled'?
	Find evidence which shows the woman was anxious about the children moving the coffin lid.
Predict	Predict what it was that the Professor said that made Mo feel uneasy.
Explain	Explain what rebirth for the Ancient Egyptians was all about.
Retrieve	Who did the coffin belong to?
	Why was the woman's blouse untucked?
	How old was the coffin?
	What did the woman say she would ask the guards to do?
	Where was Mr Lamb waiting?
Summarise	Summarise the Professor in one word. Then, explain why you chose that word.

5	
Vocabulary	Define 'undulating'.
	What is an 'inscription'?
Infer	Do you think Mr Lamb was happy to see the Professor?
	Find evidence which shows the hall was noisy as the children started the first challenge.
	Do you think Debbie likes Dexter?
	Why did Mr Lamb clap like a seal?
	Find evidence which shows the boys were enjoying playing games in the Great Hall.
Predict	Predict whether Maria Van Tam is actually a Professor and why.
Explain	Explain why the author said Kelvin ' <i>bravely</i> ' chose the farmer costume.
Retrieve	What time would they open the door to the exhibition?
	What did Mo pick to wear?
	Which three drawings popped up on screen?
	What does the cute looking quail represent?
	What was done out of respect to Egyptian gods?
	When was the coffin made?
	What was Kelvin thrilled to find out?
	What does the nefer symbol mean?
	What did they play a dozen games of?
Summarise	Summarise Dexter in one word. Then, explain why you chose this word.

6	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if you 'stand up' to someone?
	Define 'yodelled'.
	What does it mean if something ' <i>fishy'</i> is going on?
	Find a word which shows the statue of King Rameses II was big.
Infer	Why do you think the author said it was 'unfortunate for the blues'?
	Do you think Mo liked the figs?
	Why do you think Mo.s appetite for figs 'disappeared'?
	How do you know Mo wanted to see the mummies at the museum?
	Find evidence which shows Mr Lamb was embarrassed by what Maria said.
	Why do you think Mo and Kelvin exchanged a worried look?
Predict	Predict why Maria Van Tam wanted to know what went on behind the secret door.
Explain	Explain why the author called this chapter 'The Secret Room'.
Retrieve	What did Mr Rumpole give each team?
	Why did the Ancient Egyptians put figs in their coffins?
	What is a crocodile formation?
	What did the Rosetta Stone do?
	What is in the control room?

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7	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if a hallway is 'draughty'?
	What is a 'banquet'?
Infer	Find evidence which shows Mo was intrigued by the cat in the picture.
	How do you think the children felt when the Professor started dancing?
	How do you think Mo felt about the Professor?
	Find evidence which shows Mo was worried about what was about to happen.
Predict	Predict what bad thing could happen at the museum.
Explain	The author called this chapter ' <i>The Cat</i> '. Explain why the chapter is called this.
Retrieve	Where were the paintings from?
	Who was Nebamun?
	What was a popular Egyptian sport?
	Who leapt into the air to catch the ducks and geese in the picture?
	What was in the corner of the cat's eye?
	What did Maria do for the grand finale of her dance?
Summarise	Summarise Maria in one word. Then, explain why you chose this word.

	8	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if something is 'preserved'?	
	Think of a word synonymous with 'stout'.	
	What does it mean if you have the 'voice of an angel'?	
Infer	Why did the whole room fall 'deathly quiet'?	
	Find evidence which shows they did not know exactly how old	
	Tjayasetimu was when she died.	
Predict	The next chapter is called 'The Valley of the Kings'. Predict why it might be	
	called this and what might happen in this chapter.	
Explain	Explain why Mr Lamb called Tjayasetimu a 'child star'.	
Retrieve	When did Tjayasetimu live?	
	Where did Tjayasetimu sing?	
	Why did they put Tjayasetimu in a powerful scanning machine?	
Summarise	Sequence these events of the embalming process in the correct order. (1-	
	4)	
	Removed her organs	
	Wrapped the body in painted bandages	
	Packed her body with a special kind of salt to dry it out	
	They filled the body with sand and sawdust.	

	9
Vocabulary	Which word suggests the children walked into the Great Court quickly?
	Which word suggests the voice in the Great Court was loud?
	Define 'excavation'.
	What is a 'hologram'?
Infer	Why did the ground beneath Mo's feet feel soft?
	Find a phrase from page 52 which shows the children were engrossed in the room.
	Find evidence which shows one hill was very busy.
	Why do you think the worker's face was 'radiant with joy'?
	Find evidence which shows the workers were proud of Hussein.
Predict	Predict what will happen in the next chapter.
Explain	Explain why Hussein smashed the water bottle on the floor.
	<i>Howard Carter found the tomb of Tutankhamun</i> . Do you agree with this statement?
Retrieve	Which year had they travelled to?
	What was Howard Carter convinced about?
	What were dozens of men doing?
	What language were the men speaking?
	What was Hussein's job?
	What language was Howard Carter speaking?
Summarise	What was the most important event in this chapter and why?

10	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if there is a ' <i>cluster</i> ' of something?
	What does it mean if something is 'sealed'?
Infer	Why do you think Howard Carter wanted to tell Lord Carnarvon about the discovery?
	Find evidence which shows Lord Carnarvon was excited about the discovery.
	Find evidence of Dexter being silly in this chapter.
Predict	Predict why Howard Carter asked for two men to stand guard overnight.
Explain	Explain why Howard Carter's voice 'shook with emotion'.
Retrieve	How many steps had they uncovered?
	What glowed in the darkness?
	Who did Howard Carter ask to send a message to?
	What was the passage full of?
Summarise	Sequence these events in the order they occurred in the text (1-4)
	The children found themselves on the Theban hillside.
	Team Orange nervously descended the steps.
	Mo and the others swarmed down the tomb steps
	Mo spotted the ankh symbol
Notes	•

	11	
Vocabulary	Define ' <i>replica'</i> .	
	Which words suggests the artefacts can't be bought/purchased?	
	Define 'iridescent'.	
	What is a 'motion sensor'?	
Infer	Why do you think the tomb was only 'dimly lit'?	
	Was Tutankhamun well hidden inside the tomb? How do you know?	
	Find evidence which shows that Mo would never forget seeing Tutankhamun.	
Predict	Predict what disaster could happen at the museum.	
Explain	Explain how we know this was the tomb of somebody very important in Ancient Egyptian times.	
Retrieve	Who lent the artefacts to the British History Museum?	
	What was the first thing Mo saw?	
	Find three things that were in the caskets.	
	What was the large chest made from?	
	What was in the middle of the burial chamber?	
	How did they rise the coffin lid into the air?	
	What was on the face of the mannequin?	
Summarise	Summarise the tomb in one word. Then, explain why you chose this word.	
Notes:		

12	
Vocabulary	Find a word which means to screw something up tightly.
	What does it mean if you ' <i>waffle</i> ' on about something?
Infer	Find evidence which shows the note made Mo shake.
Predict	Predict what could be odd about the note.
Explain	Why do you think the author described the children as like 'in a daze'?
Retrieve	What was Mr Rumpole serving?
	Why was there too much hot chocolate?
	What was an Ancient Egyptian invention?
	When did they start using paste?
Summarise	How would you describe Hussein in one word? Then, explain why you chose this word.

13	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if you have 'bleary eyes'?
Infer	Why was Mo disappointed about the sleepover?
	Why do you think Mo said 'something strange' was going on?
	Why do you think the colour ' <i>drained</i> ' from Mo's face?
Predict	Predict whether they will phone the police or not.
Explain	Explain why the guards didn't hear Mo.
Retrieve	Which part of the note was squashed?
	What did the children fetch?
	Who did Mo want to look for?
	Where did the children say Mr Lamb was standing?
	What was half way along room 4?
	Why weren't Mo and Kelvin fast asleep?
Summarise	Summarise this chapter in no more than thirty words.
Notes:	

	14
Vocabulary	What does it mean if something is 'immobile'?
	Define <i>'lithe'</i> .
	What does it mean if you are 'claustrophobic'?
Infer	Find evidence which shows Miss Kenton really enjoyed the hot chocolate.
	Why do you think all of Mo's courage 'drained away'?
	Find evidence which shows Maria was getting restless.
	Find evidence which shows a night of excitement had turned to a night of concern for Mo.
Predict	Predict what Mo and Kelvin could do next.
Explain	Explain why Maria had been scratching her head all day.
	Explain what Maria did to the real professor.
Retrieve	Where was Miss Kenton lying?
	Why couldn't they phone the police?
	What could the doors be controlled by?
	What memory stirred in Mo's mind?
	Who was inside the stone coffin?
	What did the security cameras show?
Summarise	Sequence these events in the order they occur in the text. (1-4)
	The two boys returned to room 4
	They heard footsteps and the steady click of trolley wheels
	The professor was facing the coffin of Ankhnesneferibra.
	The fake professor was standing by the blue flag with the hot chocolate trolley

15	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if you 'accelerate away'?
	What is a ' <i>pursuer'</i> ?
Infer	Why do you think the robbers wanted to disable the motion sensors?
	Why do you think they deleted the security footage?
	Find evidence which shows the robbers were sitting very close to Mo and Kelvin.
	Why did a horrible shiver run down Mo's spine?
	Find evidence which shows the boys ran from under the desk rapidly.
Predict	Predict what might happen in the next chapter.
Explain	Explain how cricket training had helped Mo in this chapter.
Retrieve	What was by Mo's left arm?
	How many minutes did the robbers have to do the job?
	What did the robbers activate?
	What was in Mo's back pocket and why might it be useful?
	What did Maria do to Kelvin?
Summarise	Summarise Maria in one word. Then, explain why you chose this word.

	16
Vocabulary	What is a <i>'heist'</i> ?
	What does it mean if a voice becomes ' <i>muffled</i> '?
Infer	Why do you think Mo grabbed a map?
	Find evidence which shows the lift was going up.
	How do we know Draven was getting angrier with Mo?
	Kelvin was in a lot of pain – do you agree and why?
	Why do you think Mo had a 'heavy heart' at the end of this chapter?
Predict	Predict what Maria was about to do in the Tutankhamun exhibition.
Explain	Explain how Mo fooled Draven.
Retrieve	Why did the pursuer trip over?
	What was Mo face to face with?
	What was Maria carrying across the floor?
	Why was there no way of getting into the control room?
	Where did Mo hide?
Summarise	Summarise this chapter in no more than thirty words.

17	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if you stare at something 'absent-mindedly'?
Infer	Why did Mo yelp in shock?
	Find evidence which shows Debbie was shocked by Mo's revelations.
Predict	Predict what Mo and Debbie are going to do next.
Explain	Why did the author write <i>'the most heinous crime is museum history is</i>
	about to take place, and there's nothing I can do about it' in italics?
Retrieve	What did the first row of hieroglyphics spell out?
	What did Mr Lamb say about people who used the Rosetta stone?
	What message did the secret code give Mo?
	Why did Debbie sneak away from the canteen?
	Who was inside Debbie's sleeping bag?
	Where is the only phone Mo has seen?
Summarise	Summarise Debbie in one word. Then, explain why you chose this word

	18
Vocabulary	What does it mean if you are 'gossiping'?
	Define ' <i>loot'</i> .
	What is a ' <i>disguise'</i> ?
	Find a word which suggests Draven is not very clever.
Infer	Why do you think Mo apologised to the hologram of Hussein?
	Find a sentence which shows the tomb had been stripped of all its valuable possessions.
	Why was it harder not to be seen in the burial chamber?
	Find and copy a phrase which shows Maria suddenly recognised Mo.
	How did Maria make it into the control room when Mo and Kelvin couldn't?
	Why do you think Draven's voice became <i>muffled</i> ?
Predict	Predict why they had laid out bubble wrap on the sand.
Explain	Explain why Maria didn't notice Mo outside the burial chamber.
	Explain why the author compared Maria to a 'vulture'.
Retrieve	What was Debbie's plan?
	What was all around the notch to the hillside?
	What was Draven wearing?
	What was Maria clambering through?
	What was part 3 of Debbie's master plan?
Summarise	Summarise this chapter in no more than thirty words.

	19
Vocabulary	Find a word from page 122 which means the same as 'built'.
	What does it mean if you 'crane' your head?
Infer	Find two words which suggest Mo was finding it hard to move the rucksacks.
	How did Mo feel when he had found out Maria had escaped with the treasure?
	Why do you think Debbie suggested Maria had 'sprouted wings'?
Predict	Predict what will happen in the next chapter.
Explain	Explain why Mo had blacked out.
Retrieve	Why couldn't Mo lift the rucksacks?
	What was tied to an empty cart?
	Why couldn't Mo use the donkey cart as a getaway vehicle?
	Which object did they save?
	How did they know which footsteps were Maria's?
	How much did the exhibition cost?
Summarise	Which other title could the author have given for this chapter and why?
Notes:	1

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	20
Vocabulary	What does it mean if you are standing on the 'pinnacle' of something?
	What does it mean if something is 'receding'?
Infer	How do you think Mo felt as he stepped outside?
	Find evidence which shows Maria lifted away from the museum.
	Why do you think the adrenaline ' <i>drained</i> ' out of Mo's body?
	Find evidence which shows Maria had lost control on the paraglider.
Predict	Predict what will happen in the next chapter.
Explain	Explain why the author called this chapter 'Throwsticks'.
Retrieve	What was Mo wearing?
	What was Maria wearing?
	What was the pink thing in Maria's rucksack?
	Why wasn't Maria able to take off easily?
	Where did Maria say she would be tomorrow?
	What was under the bubble wrap?
	Why was Maria stuck in a left turn?
Summarise	Sequence these events in the order they happened. (1-4)
	Mo slumped down onto the roof
	The Metropolitan Police asked Maria to stop and put her hands up
	Mo grabbed a third stick
	Maria shrugged the rucksack off her front
Notes:	1

21	
Vocabulary	What does it mean if you give a 'recount' of something?
	Define 'reunion'.
Infer	Find evidence which shows Mo's dad was shocked about the story of the heist.
	Why do you think Mo said 'fifty years sounds a bit harsh' to his dad?
Predict	Predict what could happen in a sequel to this story.
Explain	Explain what you enjoyed most about the story and why.
Retrieve	When did Mo's father arrive at the museum?
	Why was there fire engines at the museum?
	Why were there ambulances at the museum?
	What did the director of the museum offer Mo?
	Why was Dexter still asleep?
Summarise	Summarise this story on a side of A4.