

The Water Babies



Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Ring the word nearest in meaning to 'chivalrous'.
churlish gentlemanly unkind false
2. Which word is nearest in meaning to 'bowling'?
throwing running bouncing holding
3. Which of the following is nearest in meaning to the word 'grate'?
grill fireplace chimney stack coal bucket

Write a full sentence to answer each of the following questions.

4. Explain what is meant in the first extract by the words 'plenty of money for Tom to earn and his master to spend.'

5. Why do you think the grand room described in the third extract is said to be 'all covered up in sheets of brown paper' and what exactly would have been covered?

6. Explain what is meant in the third extract by 'he was as much at home in a chimney as a mole is underground'.

Notes for teachers

The last set of questions involves interpretation so you might need to discuss these with the children before they write anything down. In the fifth question it's important that pupils realise that the objects covered in the room would be the furnishings and possibly rugs – not the whole room as stated in the extract.