

EXTRACTS AND NOTES FOR KS2 TEACHERS

INTRODUCTION

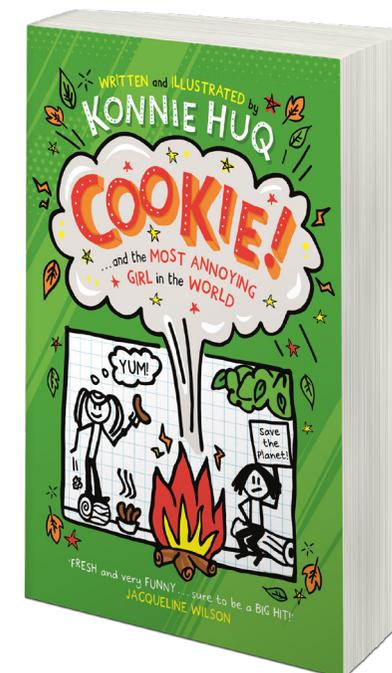
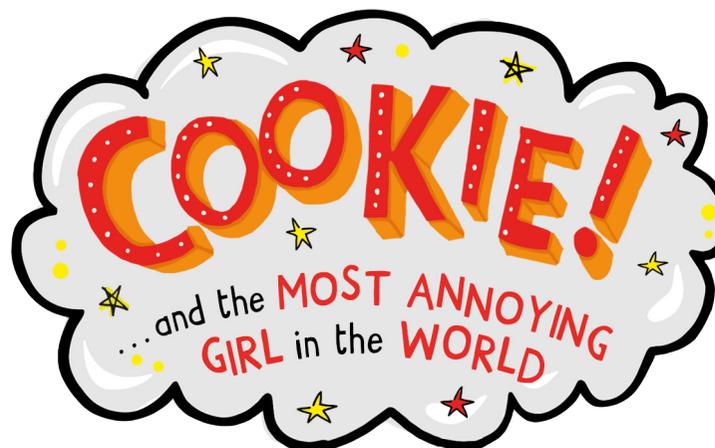
Suitable for: Ages 7+

Includes: Extracts from the text
+ corresponding discussion
questions and activities

Themes: Saving the Planet; Fear; Forest Club; Growing up

CONTENTS

- **EXTRACT 1:** Saving the Planet (taken from Chapter 1: Spanner in The Works)
Objectives: Consider what you can do to look after the environment; plan a 'Save the Planet' party.
Subjects: Literacy, RSHE, Citizenship, Geography, Science
- **EXTRACT 2:** Fear (taken from Chapter 4: Fear and Loathing)
Objectives: Discuss why it is important to share our fears; write a reflection about your fear and share it with someone.
Subjects: Literacy, RSHE, Citizenship
- **EXTRACT 3:** Forest Club (taken from Chapter 11: Scavenger Hunt)
Objectives: Understand how Forest Clubs can help us learn about ourselves and the natural world; participate in your own Scavenger Hunt.
Subjects: Literacy, Geography, Science, RSHE, Citizenship
- **EXTRACT 4:** Growing Up (taken from Chapter 21: Home Sweet Home)
Objectives: Use illustrations to show how you have grown and changed over time; make pledges for the future about friendship and the environment.
Subjects: Literacy, RSHE, Citizenship, Geography, Science, Art, Design and Technology

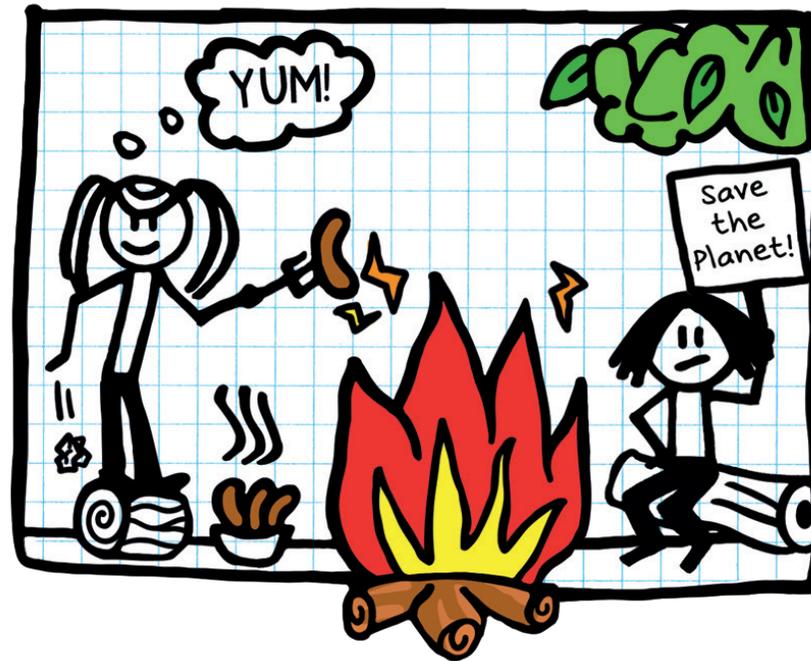


ABOUT THE BOOK

Cookie, Keziah and Jake are best mates and life is good. Cookie's birthday party is coming up and she has had the most fantastic idea for a Save the Planet party where everything is recyclable and no plastic is used. Before long, Cookie is buzzing with plans.

But then disaster strikes - Suzie Ashby totally swipes Cookie's idea and sends out invitations for her own Save the Planet birthday party. Worse still, Suzie seems to think Cookie is her new best friend!

Grrrr! Suzie is officially the most annoying girl in the world!





EXTRACT 1: SAVING THE PLANET (taken from Chapter 1: Spanner in The Works)

I watched this documentary the other day and it showed how harmful plastics can be. Get this – every day approximately eight million pieces of plastic pollution find their way into the sea. Eight million!!!



That's more plastic in the sea than there are people living in the whole of Scotland! Unbelievable!!!

So since then I've been making the entire family ditch single-use plastic, start recycling

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

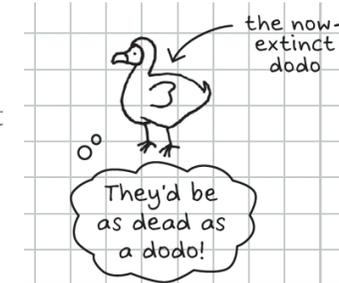
- What facts does Cookie learn from the documentary? Why are these facts worrying?
- Why is plastic so bad for the environment? How can you reduce the amount of plastic you use?
- What else can you do to help save the planet? Use Cookie's illustrations to give you some ideas.
- What does Cookie mean when she says 'eco-friendly'? Which animals and creatures in particular are under threat?
- Why is Cookie's plan to throw a 'Save the Planet' party such a good idea? What positive impact will this have?

and generally be more environmentally friendly.

Keziah and Jake are both down with the



whole eco-friendly thing too. Can you believe that a one-and-a-half-degree rise in average temperature will have an irreversible effect on our planet?! Loads of different species would be wiped out!



ACTIVITY: 'SAVE THE PLANET' PARTY PLANNING!

- Cookie has the brilliant idea to throw a 'Save the Planet' birthday party, so that she can celebrate her special day whilst being kind to the environment. You are now going to plan for your own party using Cookie's ideas below from page 23 of the text:
 - Make everything sustainable – no plastic!
 - Vegetarian food – meat is a real eco no-no!
 - Walk or cycle to the party if possible
 - Invites emailed or sent by message
- Use the 'Party Planning' worksheet to plan all the details for your party and to write a draft of the email or message that will be sent out to your guests. The final row of the table has been left blank for you to think of another way you could protect the environment at your party. Talk to other students or friends to share ideas but try to make your party as personalised as possible.
- When you have finished planning, take your worksheet home and ask your family if you can throw a party sticking to as many of your eco-friendly rules as possible. You can ask guests to bring something with them so that everyone contributes towards saving the planet!

Draft of email or message invitation to be sent to party guests:

To

I am throwing a 'Save the Planet' party on I am doing this because

.....

I hope you can make it!

From



'SAVE THE PLANET' PARTY PLANNING!

Name of host:

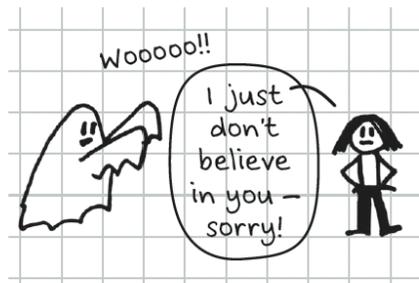
	BAD for the environment – Avoid ...	ECO-FRIENDLY option – Use or try to ...
FOOD AND DRINK		
DECORATIONS, PARTY BAGS, GIFTS		
TRAVEL TO AND FROM PARTY		
INVITATIONS, WASTE, ENERGY USAGE		
.....		

EXTRACT 2: FEAR (Taken from Chapter 4: Fear and Loathing)

Mrs Mannan works her way round the room while I think hard about what it is that frightens me.

Keziah says she's scared of the dark, Axel can't bear heights, Suzie is terrified of bacteria and Alison Denbigh's fear is ghosts. I mean, who believes in ghosts?! Total nonsense!

In the end, I say swans as I do kind of have a phobia of them. Thinking back over the last couple of days, I wonder whether Roubi was right when



she once said I have FOMO – a Fear Of Missing Out. Was that why I didn't want Jake and Keziah to go to Suzie's party without me? And did it explain why I now wanted to go to the Aliana gig even though I'm not a fan? I put the thought out of my mind as it was Jake's turn to answer. He declares to the class that he 'honestly isn't scared of anything'. Yawn!

'Everyone's scared of something,' says Mrs Mannan, speaking the most sense I've heard from her in ages.

'Certainly not scared of being a traitor,' I whisper under my breath.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What do each of the characters fear? List them. Do any of these things scare you?
- Do you agree with Mrs Mannan that, 'Everyone's scared of something'? Explain your ideas.
- What are you most afraid of and why? How does your body and mind feel when you are scared?
- How do Cookie and her friends support each other with their fears? What does this tell you about friendship?
- What can you do to help a friend or family member when they are afraid?



ACTIVITY: SHARING OUR FEARS

- As a class consider why Jake finds it difficult to talk about his fear. How does he feel after he has shared his fear with Cookie? What does Cookie learn about her F.O.M.O (fear of missing out) and her relationship with 'the most annoying girl in the world'?
- Then, use all of today's discussions to help you write a reflection about your experience(s) of fear, feeding back your ideas in small groups or with a partner. If you are happy to, each member of the class will then be asked to share what their biggest fear is.

Note: You can do this with your family if you are completing this activity at home. In the final section of your reflection (in purple), write down what you have learnt about fear by sharing and talking about them together. Do you feel any differently about your fear now?

Name

My biggest fear is This makes me feel

I also worry about the environment because

When I am afraid my body feels and my mind feels

When I'm scared it makes me feel better when

One person who supports me with my fear is

Fear is normal because

Complete after group discussion:

Today I shared my fears with This makes me feel

It is good to share how we feel because

Today I have learnt

WELL DONE FOR SHARING YOUR FEAR TODAY!

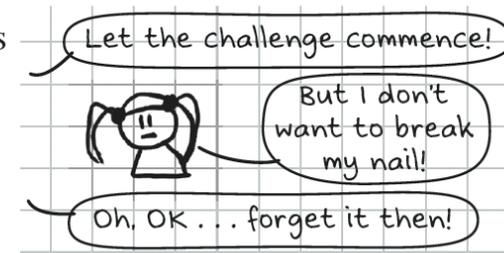
EXTRACT 3: FOREST CLUB (Taken from Chapter 11: Scavenger Hunt)

‘Today’s activity is an A to Z scavenger hunt,’ booms Mrs Edmonds. ‘Armed with these printouts and checklists, you must try to find an item from the woods for each letter of the alphabet. Don’t expect to get all twenty-six – you’re not miracle-workers. However, I will tell you that some items have been specially hidden for you to make your quest a little easier. OK, teams! Take up your arms and good luck!’

Take up your arms?
We aren’t going into battle!



I just know this is going to be fun. Maybe it will be like a battle . . . I can imagine Axel getting quite competitive over this. Although with Suzie ‘I don’t want to get my hands dirty’ Ashby on his team, perhaps not.



Mrs Edmonds has printed out loads of pointers and clues for us. There are specimen jars, as well as the checklists to help us collect and identify stuff. Axel’s right – Forest Club is an adventure!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Who is in the Forest Club? What do you think Mrs Edmonds wants her students to learn and experience in the forest?
- What activities do the students take part in through Forest Club? List as many as you can.
- Which of these activities would you like to take part in the most? Which would find the most tricky?
- Does your school have their own version of Forest Club? How does this kind of club help you learn about the natural world?
- Where is your nearest forest or wood? Could you make your own Forest Club safely with friends or family members?

ACTIVITY: SCAVENGER HUNT

Scoring system

- 5 or fewer – Try harder!
- 6-15 – Good work!
- 16-25 – Excellent!
- 26 – FULL HOUSE!!!! Way to go, brainbox!

Conclusion

Insects, bugs and creepy crawlies come in all different shapes and sizes. It's important to have a wide variety of creatures on the planet so that there's lots of biodiversity. Everything in nature is interdependent, which means we all need each other: humans need plants and animals and creepy crawlies, otherwise the whole system would break down. For instance, bees are really important as they help flowering plants reproduce. We even need fungus and bacteria to help break down dead and decaying matter and to return the nutrients to the soil so the cycle of life can repeat. Without them we wouldn't exist! We have to preserve the habitats of each and every living thing on our planet.



NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT, COOKIE-STYLE!

Materials

A list of the letters of the alphabet (I've made you one below!)

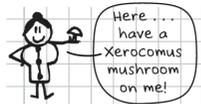
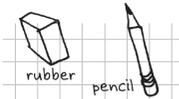
A pencil

A rubber in case you make any mistakes!

Method

Go outside (with your parent or guardian of course!) and try to find something in nature beginning with every letter of the alphabet.

Don't expect to get all the letters, as some are much harder than others, like Q or X. You could always use reference books or the Internet to help you . . . Remember, Mrs Edmonds helped us out with lots of cheats!



- | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|
| A - | M - | X - |
| B - | N - | Y - |
| C - | O - | Z - |
| D - | P - | |
| E - | Q - | |
| F - | R - | |
| G - | S - | |
| H - | T - | |
| I - | U - | |
| J - | V - | |
| K - | W - | |
| L - | | |

Results

How many different things did you find?

Write your results down here! How much did you score out of 26?

/ 26

- You are now going to participate in your own Scavenger Hunt in a safe outdoor space!
- First of all, your teacher will put you into pairs; take a few minutes to look over the Cookie-Style instructions and the materials you will need. Discuss together the nature and wildlife that you might see on your hunt. This is your chance to ask any questions you are unsure of and for your teacher to go over the ground rules.
- You will then be taken to your outdoor space; this may be a forest, wood, field or anywhere you are likely to encounter different forms of wildlife.
- See how many letters of the alphabet you can find, with you and your partner filling in your own sheets but working as a team. Remember, it doesn't matter if you don't find all 26!
- When you are back in the classroom, feedback how many letters you managed to scavenge together. Keep your sheet safe and take it home so that you can try to fill in a few more letters on another trip to a safe outdoor space with a family member.

EXTRACT 4: GROWING UP (Taken from Chapter 21: Home Sweet Home)

She says she's been giving it a lot of thought and our trip has inspired her to set up some sort of nationwide environmental-awareness-themed Forest Club. She wants it to be a charitable organisation that would be both fun AND help save the planet in the process! Good on Edmonds!



'The planet won't save itself!' she says, waving goodbye as she disappears off. It sounds like a great idea! We'll all really miss her, but it's good to know

that once she's up and running we can repeat our fabulous adventure again whenever we want!



When we get to the park, it's starting to get pretty windy. Without even thinking about it, the three of us begin collecting up all the loose bits of rubbish that are tumbling around everywhere. We've changed!



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What does Mrs Edmonds mean when she says, 'The planet won't save itself!?' Explain your ideas.
- How has Mrs Edmonds and her Forest Club helped Cookie and her friends to take more responsibility for the environment?
- Do you agree with Cookie that she and her friends have 'changed'? In what ways have they grown up?
- How have you changed and grown up over the years? What have you learnt about friendship and the environment?
- What do you think you could do in the future to become an even better friend and to 'save our planet'?

ACTIVITY: WE'VE CHANGED!

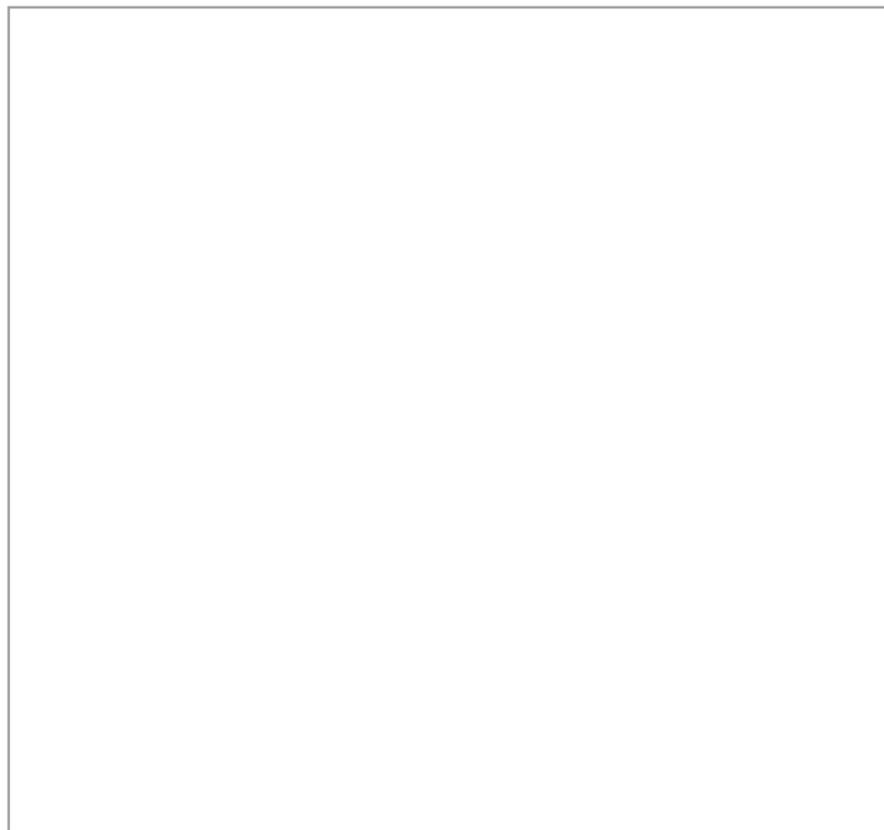
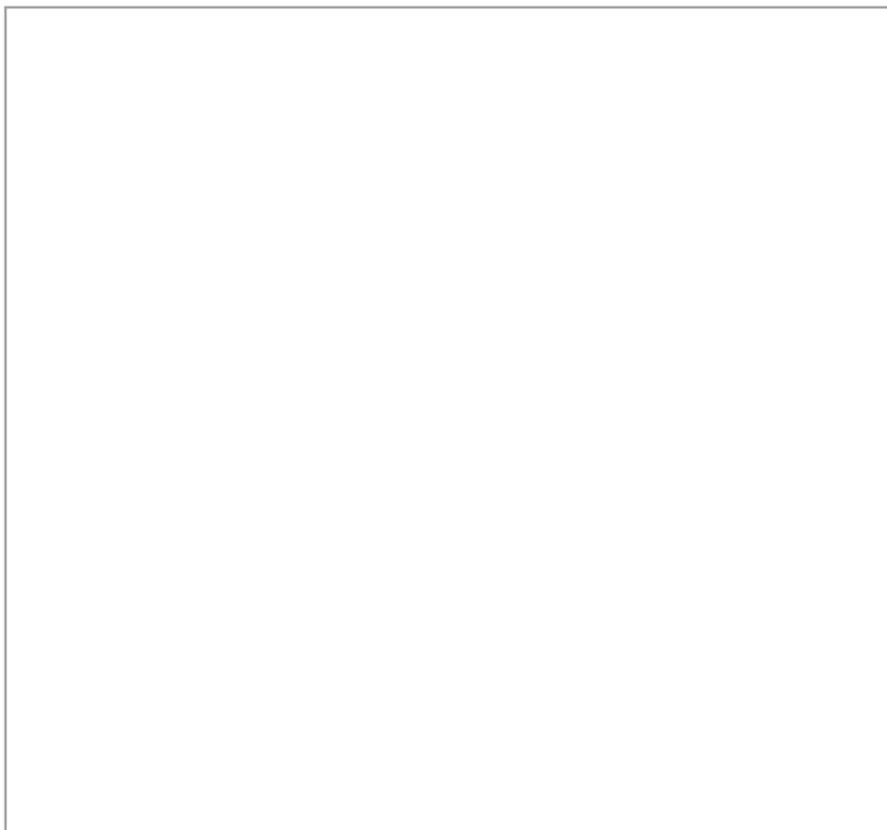
- Close your eyes and picture yourself as a baby, then a small child, then growing slowly into who you are today. How has your body changed over time? What about the person you are inside?
- You are now going to use two illustrations to show how much you have grown up over the past few years. Think about a time recently that you showed maturity, were a good friend, or took responsibility. How did you show how much you've changed in those moments?
- First of all, draw a picture of yourself in the 'THEN' box. This picture should be of when you were much younger.
- Next, draw a recent picture of yourself in the 'NOW' box, showing how you have grown up and become more responsible over time. Your sketches could show how you have:
 - matured in your outlook
 - become a better friend or family member
 - taken more responsibility in school, at a club, at home
 - helped protect the environment
- Finally, make two pledges to yourself for the future, one about friendship and one about the environment. Share these as class and check in a few weeks' time to see what you have done to work towards these pledges.





THEN

NOW



These pictures show that when I was younger I
but now I.....

FRIENDSHIP PLEDGE:
ENVIRONMENT PLEDGE: