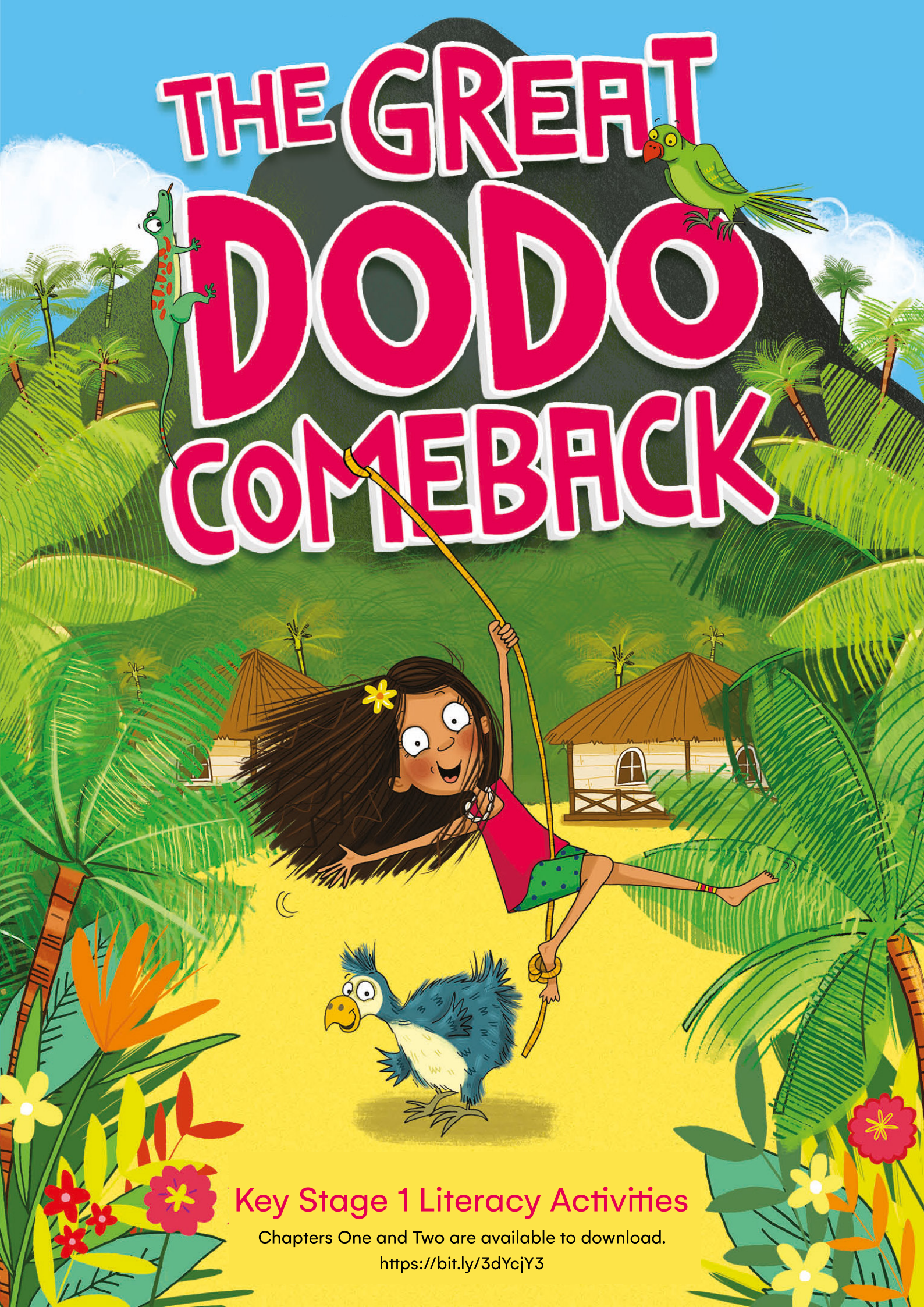


THE GREAT DODO COMEBACK



Key Stage 1 Literacy Activities

Chapters One and Two are available to download.

<https://bit.ly/3dYcjY3>

Chapter One: Popcorn



Comprehension/Discussion Questions

- What does Leni like to do in her notebook?
- What does Leni look like?
- What is Leni's personality like?
- Describe what Mauritius is like
- Who is Popcorn?
- What do Leni's parents do for work?
- Who do you think the new arrival might be?
- Would you like to live where Leni lives? Why? Why not?
- How is Leni the same or different to you?

Creative Writing

- Write three sentences to describe where you live.
- Write about your favourite place to visit/favourite place you have been.
- Imagine you are in Mauritius, write down a word to describe it for each of the five senses. You could draw around your hand and write a word for each sense in each of your fingers/thumb.

Other Activities

- Draw a picture of where Leni lives.
- Draw a picture of Popcorn.
- Design your own treehouse.
- Start a notebook like Leni's about your favourite thing. You could include drawings of that thing and reasons for why you like it.



Chapter Two: The Handkerchief



Comprehension/Discussion Questions

- Who is the new arrival? Describe them in three words.
- Which country is the new arrival from?
- The new arrival drops his hanky and doesn't notice, what do you think this suggests about him?
- What do you think IBBB stands for?
- Leni decides to knock on the door at the end of the chapter, what do you think this tells us about her personality?

Creative Writing

- Imagine you are the new arrival, write a couple of sentences describing how you feel to be in Mauritius.
- Come up with three reasons why people might want to visit Mauritius.
- Imagine if you could have any animal to be your best friend (like Leni has Popcorn). Describe what your pet would be.

Other Activities

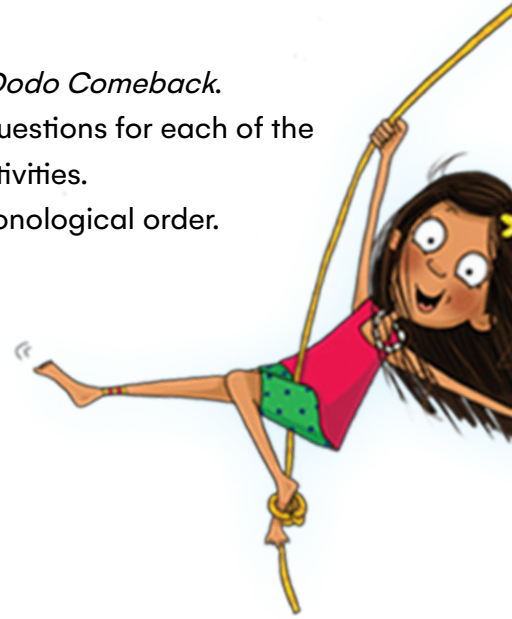
- Draw or make five holiday huts and come up with creative names for them (better than 187!).
- Make a welcome card for the new arrival.
- Create a collage of a beach and sea. Be as imaginative as you can be for what you could use for the sand and sea!



Comprehension/Discussion Questions for the whole book

We hope you enjoyed the first two chapters of *The Great Dodo Comeback*. If you have the book, here are some comprehension/discussion questions for each of the remaining chapters, and some more creative activities.

The creative activities follow the events of the book in chronological order.



Chapter Three: Larking About

- What is the name of the new arrival, and where does he work?
- What does Leni want to do when she grows up?
- Why is Professor Flowers in Mauritius?

Chapter Four: Dead as a Dodo

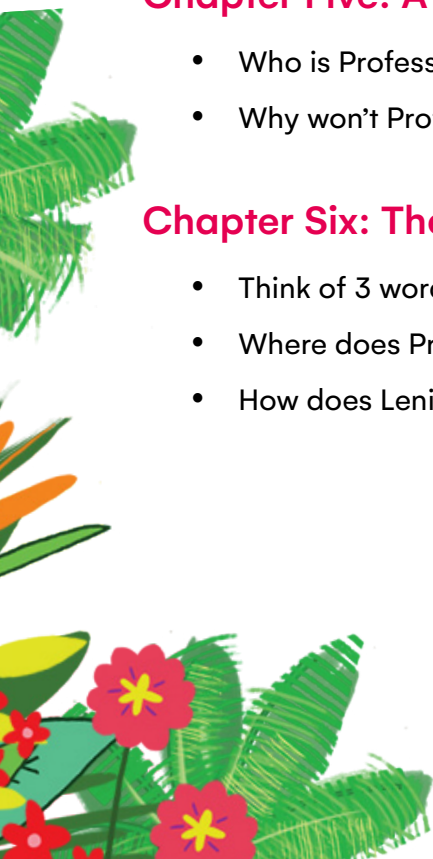
- Why do you think July is wintertime in Mauritius?
- What's a dodo?
- What happened to the dodos?
- What do you think conservation is?
- What does Professor Flowers want to do?
- If you could bring an animal back from extinction, which one would you choose?
- What is DNA?
- Which bird does Professor Flowers need to help him to bring back the dodo?

Chapter Five: A Rival's Return

- Who is Professor Scissorson?
- Why won't Professor Flowers work with Professor Scissorson?

Chapter Six: The Early Bird

- Think of 3 words to describe Professor Scissorson.
- Where does Professor Scissorson want to go?
- How does Leni offer to help the professors?



Comprehension/Discussion Questions for the whole book

Chapter Seven: Dodo Heartland

- Why is Leni so excited about going to the dodo caves?
- What type of land do they drive through to reach the caves?
- What type of vet does Leni want to be when she grows up?
- What food type do they see growing?
- Why is Leni upset?



Chapter Eight: La Grotte de Vulcan

- What are the highlands like?
- What is it like inside the cave?
- What did the lava formations look like?
- Which animal did they disturb in the cave?
- Who found the first dodo bone?
- What do you think happened to the dodos in the cave?

Chapter Nine: A Bone to Pick

- How are Professor Scissorson and Professor Flowers similar? How are they different?
- Why are the professors so excited?
- Who was outside the cave entrance?
- What do you think is going to happen next?

Chapter Ten: A Sweet Tooth

- What do you learn about Benny Shoober?
- What do you learn about Giavanna Shoober?
- What's the slogan for Shoober Sugar?
- What does Paw Paw have tattooed on his knuckles?
- Who is Beanbag? How is he different to Paw Paw?



Comprehension/Discussion Questions for the whole book

Chapter 11: De-Eggs-Stink-Shun

- What stopped Benny Shooper having more sugar cane fields?
- Why doesn't Shooper want the dodo back?
- What does Shooper say a dodo is like?
- What does Shooper tell Paw Paw and Bean bag to do?
- Who's watching Shooper on the windowsill?



Chapter 12: An Outing

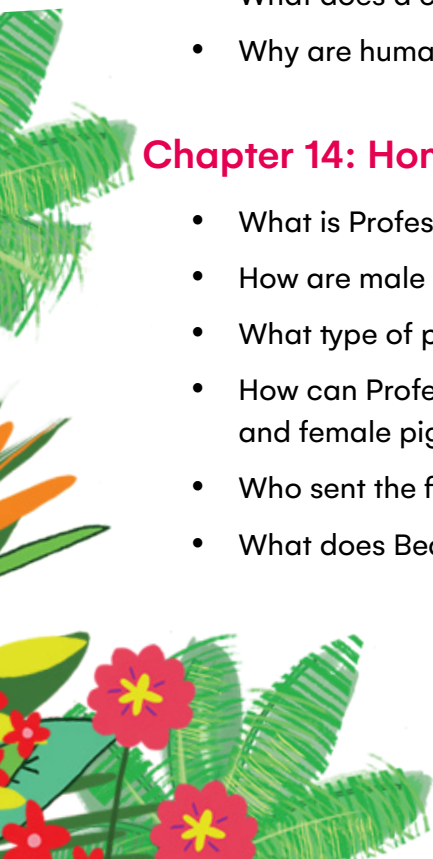
- Which piece of dodo merchandise would you choose?
- Why do you think there are dodos everywhere at the local bazaar?
- What's a roche cari and baba?
- What does Professor Flowers buy?
- How does Popcorn help Professor Flowers?
- Why doesn't Leni like Benny Shooper?
- What's d'holl puri?

Chapter 13: Shipments of Equipment

- What does Professor Scissorson get delivered?
- Who do you think might be moving in the bushes?
- What does a centrifuge do?
- Why are humans dangerous to the dodo DNA?

Chapter 14: Homes to Roost

- What is Professor Flowers building?
- How are male pigeons different to female ones?
- What type of pigeons has Professor Scissorson got?
- How can Professor Scissorson tell the different between male and female pigeons?
- Who sent the flowers to the professors and why did they send them?
- What does Beanbag wish he'd brought with him?



Comprehension/Discussion Questions for the whole book

Chapter 15: Marion and Mimi

- Who are Mimi and Marion?
- What did Marion used to do for her job?
- What's Leni's mother worried about?

Chapter 16: Neck and Neck

- What are the professors racing to do?
- Why does Leni think the professors should be friends?
- What goes wrong for Professor Flowers?
- Why do you think Professor Flowers has lost his logbook?
- How is Professor Scissorson's pigeon loft different to Professor Flowers'?
- Why does Leni feel glum?



Chapter 17: Talking Turkey

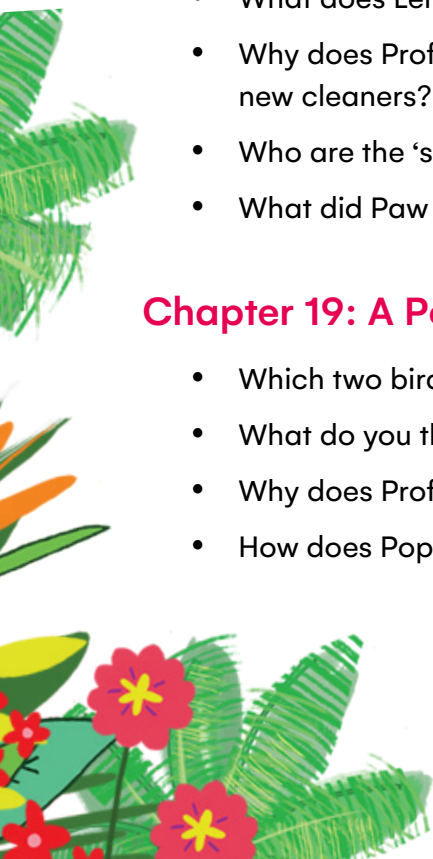
- Why is Shoober sitting on a throne wearing a robe and crown?
- Why is Shoober not happy with the article in the Mauritian Pigeon Post?
- Why does Shoober want the dodo egg?

Chapter 18: Shirley and Pauline

- What does Leni notice about the new cleaners?
- Why does Professor Scissorson think there's something odd about the new cleaners?
- Who are the 'supply' cleaners?
- What did Paw Paw and Beanbag take from Professor Scissorson's hut?

Chapter 19: A Poached Egg

- Which two birds did Leni compare the cleaners too?
- What do you think has happened to Professor Flowers?
- Why does Professor Scissorson think Professor Flowers has stolen her egg?
- How does Popcorn help Professor Scissorson?



Comprehension/Discussion Questions for the whole book

Chapter 20: Chez Shooper

- List three things that Leni tells Professor Scissorson about Shooper
- What do you think Chez Shooper means?
- What does the baby cupid look like he's doing?
- How do Leni and Professor Scissorson get into Shooper's mansion?
- What are lots of Shooper's things made out of?
- Who does Leni have to tell to be quiet? Why do they need to be quiet?
- Where did they find the egg?



Chapter 21: Caught

- What happens to give Leni and Professor Scissorson away?
- How does Popcorn try to help Leni?
- How does Benny Shooper end up with the egg?

Chapter 22: A Rotten Egg

- What reason does Shooper give Leni for not wanting the Dodo brought back?
- What do you think the granulator is?

Chapter 23: The Granulator

- How does Popcorn get imprisoned?
- What did Leni think a sugar factory would look like? What did it actually look like?
- What is the granulator?
- What are molasses?
- How do Marion, Mimi and Professor Flowers arrive?



Comprehension/Discussion Questions for the whole book

Chapter 24: Happy Birthday

- What's happening to the dodo egg?
- What's a squab?
- How do the professors feel about the squab?
- What does Shoober threaten Mimi and Marion with?
- Where is Popcorn?
- How do you think Leni feels about the fact Popcorn is missing?



Chapter 25: Dodo Mumbo Jumbo

- Why does Giavanna want the dodo?
- Do you think what Giavanna is saying about dodo eggs is true?
- What would you do if you were Leni? Would you hand over the dodo chick?

Chapter 26: Dodo-a-go-go

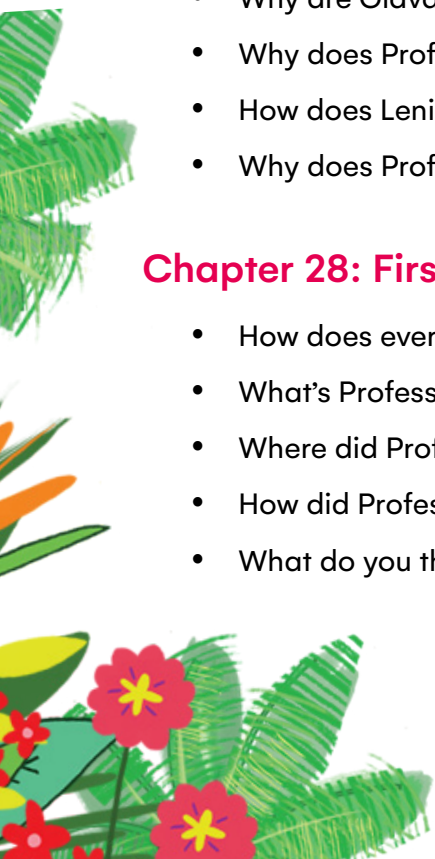
- Leni really values her Muppa's advice. Who do you choose to go to when you need help?
- What saves Popcorn?
- Do you think the professors like each other now?

Chapter 27: Masses of Molasses

- Why are Giavanna and Shoober running away from the factory?
- Why does Professor Scissorson have to swerve her jeep?
- How does Leni feel at the end of the chapter?
- Why does Professor Scissorson tell Professor Flowers that he can call her Celia?

Chapter 28: First Name Terms

- How does everyone feel about the baby dodo?
- What's Professor Flowers' first name?
- Where did Professor Flowers find Marion and Mimi?
- How did Professor Flowers, Marion and Mimi know where the egg was?
- What do you think is happening in Professor Flowers' hut?



Comprehension/Discussion Questions for the whole book

Chapter 29: Squabbing

- What does Leni find in Professor Flowers' hut?
- What does Professor Flowers do when he sees the squab?
- How do pigeons feed their babies?
- How does Leni get the professors to agree to work together?
- Who comes back to surprise Leni at the end of the chapter?
- How do you think Leni feels at the end of the chapter?



Chapter 30: Freedom

- What does Leni set up for the dodos?
- What's happened to Shoober's mansion?
- What do the pigeons do to the statue of Shoober?

Chapter 31: Bird of a Feather

- What medal did Leni get from the Mauritian president?
- Why are the professors staying in Mauritius for longer?
- What do the dodos like to do?
- Where are the dodos going to live?
- How is Muppa helping Leni with her future dream?
- Did you like the ending of the book? Would you change anything about it?
- What did you learn from reading the book?
- Who do you think would like to read this book? Who would you recommend it to?
- If you could ask the author 3 questions, what would they be?



Creative Writing for the whole book



- Write about what you want to do when you grow up. You could draw a picture of yourself doing that job too!
- Leni is very good at coming up with rhymes. Come up with as many words as you can that rhyme with the following: beak, bone, bloat.
- The author uses lots of similes in her writing ‘the glowing orange sun was beginning to sink, like a giant basketball with a puncture’, ‘the ocean blended into the sky like a big blue slushie’, ‘his bald spot was pinker than a flamingo’s tongue’. Come up with your own similes to describe three things you can see. You could describe what you see out the window, or someone you know, or an object that’s next to you for example.
- Describe the last adventure you went on, or an adventure you’d like to go on.
- Write a short story about going into a cave. Use the five senses to describe what it’s like in there.
- Describe your favourite meal.
- Imagine you are Leni. Write a postcard to Muppa telling her what you have been up to.
- Write an article for the Mauritian Pigeon Post about the Professors and how they are trying to de-extinct the dodo.
- Write a poem about one of the birds in the book.
- Using the name of one of the chapters as your title, write either a poem, play or short story about it.
- Write a news bulletin telling the world that the dodo has been de-extincted by Professor Scissorson and Professor Flowers.
- Write the sequel to the book. You could write about Leni’s future as a vet, or about the dodos when they’ve grown up for example.



Other Activities for the whole book

- Draw a picture of a dodo or make a dodo out of things you can find around the house.
- Research what conservation is.
- Research what an endangered species is.
- Create a poster that persuades people to bring one animal back from extinction.
- Make and decorate a papier-mache bird's egg.
- Draw a map of your home/local area.
- Make your own forest using things you can find around the house or create a collage of a forest using things you can find in your garden.
- Make or draw a dodo bone.
- Draw a picture/diagram of Popcorn's bird's eye view at the start of Chapter Ten (A Sweet Tooth).
- Come up with a TV advert for Shoober Sugar and act it out. You should include: why your sugar is the best, the Shoober Sugar slogan, and ideas for what you might use Shoober Sugar for.
- Make a sign/banner about protecting the Mauritius Kestrel or the echo parakeet. You might want to research a bit about them with help from a grown-up.
- Come up with some more ideas for dodo merchandise like in Chapter 12 (An Outing).
- Draw a pink pigeon.
- Make your own pigeon loft with things you can find around the house.
- Make your very own crown like Shoober's!
- Draw Leni's vision of a sugar factory from Chapter 23 (The Granulator).
- Host your own celebration party about something that you or a family member has achieved.
- Draw a picture to go with the article the professors wrote for The Quill in Chapter 31 (Birds of a Feather).
- Make a 'Bird Brain of Mauritius' medal.
- Create an advert for the Splatomiser from Chapter 31 (Birds of a Feathers). It could be for TV, radio or even a poster.
- Find out 5 more dodo facts.

