

Reading

Unit 3 - Wednesday

Please login to Purple Mash...



2Dos

Click on
5

click on



Chapter 5

and read Chapter



2Dos

Click on

click on



Chapter 5: Online
Multiple Choice

and answer the

questions about the text. If you follow these instructions you will be able to submit the work to us because you have done it on the 2Do app.

Extra Challenge. Try this...



2Dos



Click on [2Dos](#) click on

Or you can read it on the next few pages.

Lucinda Leap and the hedgehog gang



Story by Alexa Kellow

Art by Zarina Liew

lucinda leap

and the hedgehog gang

chapter

5

The next day after school, Jack's mum agreed that he could go to tea at Lucinda's house. As their mums cooed over baby Elise, Jack muttered to Lucinda, "Aren't you going to look crazy when we get to the park and the hedgehogs are all totally normal!"

Lucinda grinned back. "Why would I make up talking hedgehogs?"

"Because you're trying to impress me, naturally," Jack preened.

"Ha!" Lucinda couldn't wait to show him. "You'll see!"

At the park, Lucinda led Jack straight to the hedge and called out, "Hey Spike! Hedgehogs! Where are you? I've brought some dog food." She had borrowed some from Mrs Sullivan next door.

Jack rolled his eyes. "Good job I'm cucumber cool, out with this weirdo yelling at a hedge!"

"Who are you calling a weirdo, pal?" said a familiar voice. And there he was, Spike, in his tiny jacket, and Maxine, who had purple quills this time.

"No way!" Jack stared at them, his mouth wide open as he turned back to Lucinda.

"You keep your mouth open like that, you'll be catching flies for us in no time, mister!" Spike chuckled. He jerked his little thumb at Jack. "Who's this wise guy anyway, Lucinda?"

"My friend, Jack," she said.

"Friend, huh? Looks like a bat to me." He winked at her.

"I'm sorry, what?" Jack had regained the power of speech. "Not only am I talking to a hedgehog, but it just called me a bat? I must be dreaming. I need to wake myself up!" He started blinking and rubbing his eyes.

"No, you're awake," Lucinda said. She explained about having met the hedgehogs, and the way that the building work had made it hard for them to sleep during the day and catch the food they needed at night. The hedgehogs were grateful for the dog food, but Lucinda knew she'd have to do something else to really help them. Though the hedgehogs were trying to be cheerful, they looked thinner and even Spike

was yawning. “As well as that, they need to be well fed before they go to sleep for the winter!” she said, reaching the end of her explanation.



“Of course,” said Jack. “They’ll need to hibernate soon. It’s getting colder by the day.”

When Lucinda’s mum called them over, they were both reluctant to leave. Jack had made firm friends with the hedgehogs and was just as worried as Lucinda about how to save them.

They had a nice time together over tea, talking about what could be done about the hedgehogs’ habitat. Lucinda was so pleased to have not only someone else to share the problem with, but also someone she felt she could call a friend. Jack was quirky and funny and knew lots of weird facts. He told her that his granny called hedgehogs ‘the gardener’s friend’, because they like to eat troublesome bugs that attacked plants. This gave Lucinda a great idea, which she was just about to explain when the arrival of Jack’s dad made her forget everything related to the hedgehogs instantly.

“Guess what?” his dad said excitedly. “I got that job! Find your swimming stuff, buddy – we’re off to Australia!”

At breakfast the next day, Mum tried to cheer up Lucinda by making her favourite: waffles with chocolate spread. Lucinda didn’t feel like being cheered up. She was sad that the new friend she’d just made had to move to the other side of the world, almost straight away. She didn’t even smile when Elise put her cereal bowl on her head and made a cute roaring sound.

“She’s trying to make you laugh, my love,” said Mum, stroking Lucinda’s arm. “Don’t worry, you’re bound to make more new friends soon.”

Lucinda nodded glumly; she doubted it.



She was still in a bad mood when she got to school, but when she saw Jack in assembly she remembered what she had meant to tell him. He came and sat next to her. Some of the Squirrel Girls pointed and giggled and made stupid “Oooh” noises. Alicia from Gardening Club was with them, but didn’t join in.

“Pathetic,” said Jack. “Not to mention predictable.”

Lucinda asked him how he felt about moving to Australia. He grinned. “I’m looking forward to all the Australian critters. There’s stuff out there that would make our insects and spiders run away and hide in fear!”

Lucinda nodded. “It does sound like an adventure. And that reminds me – I’ve come up with a plan to help the hedgehogs permanently.”



Comprehension Questions

1. Lucinda visited Spike's hedge whilst her mum was...
 - a feeding Elise.
 - b helping Elise on the slide.
 - c trying to get Elise off to sleep.
 - d changing Elise's nappy.
 - e pushing Elise on the swing.

2. What did Maxine ask Lucinda to bring on her next visit?
 - a a petition
 - b dog food or mince
 - c ear protectors
 - d warm clothes
 - e a blanket

3. Which day was the first session of Gardening Club?
 - a Monday
 - b Tuesday
 - c Wednesday
 - d Thursday
 - e Friday

4. What reason did Jack give for being late to Gardening Club?
 - a he'd mislaid his wellies
 - b he'd gone to the wrong meeting place
 - c he'd had to run an errand for Mrs Burdock
 - d he'd lost his coat
 - e he'd fallen over and hurt himself

5. What did Lucinda and Jack have in common?
- a their dads often worked away
 - b they were both friends with Spike
 - c they were both new to the area
 - d they both had an interest in vegetables
 - e they shared an enthusiasm for the town



Chapter Sequencing

Put these events in the order in which they happened in the story, numbering them from 1 to 5. The first one has been done for you.

Jack introduced himself to Lucinda and they decided to work together.

Lucinda attended the first session of Gardening Club.

Ms Moore said that there were too many slugs and snails in the garden.

Lucinda visited her hedgehog friends at the park.

When her mum asked who she'd been talking to, Lucinda lied and said that she hadn't been speaking to anyone.

1



Open-Ended Questions

1. Look at the paragraph beginning with *The noise from...*

Find and copy **one word** meaning unwilling and hesitant.

2. Look at the paragraph beginning with *Lucinda wondered if...* and continue reading until *...Lucinda felt bad.*

How did Lucinda know that she had caused Spike to wake up?

3. "*Lucinda, who are you talking to?*" Mum frowned.

Why do you think Mum was frowning?

4. Look at the paragraph beginning with *They went back....*

Why do you think that Alicia, one of the Squirrel Girls, was friendly to Lucinda at Gardening Club?

5. Why did Lucinda feel confident enough to tell Jack about the talking hedgehogs?