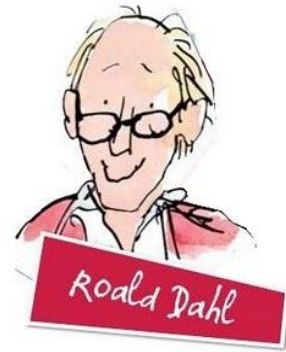


# THE TWITS



## Reading Guide

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_

# THE TWITS

## Pre-reading activities

**Project:** Take photos of “hairy-faced men” you come across with and bring them to class to form a big poster with all of them. Observe the different types of beards.

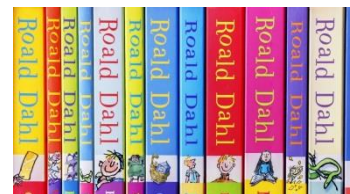
### Activity 1

Look at the cover of your story book and answer the questions. Discuss your answers with your partner.

<i>First Encounter with The Twits <u>Things to consider</u></i>
1. What can you see? And what are they doing?
2. Can you tell something about the characters on the book cover?
3. Just look at the title, do you know what the story is about?
4. Do you know what the title actually refers to? Make a guess.

### Activity 2

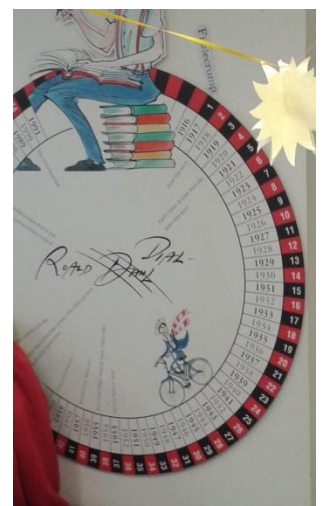
- ❖ What other Roald Dahl’s books do you know?



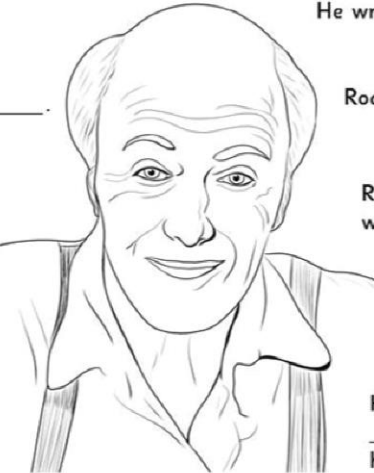
### Activity 3

- ❖ Go to Roald Dahl’s official website and do a timeline. Be original!

<http://www.roalddahl.com/roalddahl/timeline/1910s>



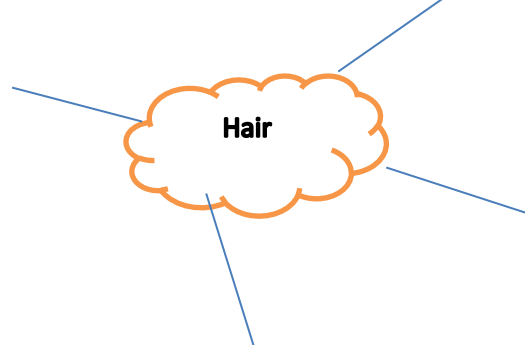
Activity 4: You can complete this chart after your research

His _____ died from measles.		He wrote his stories in _____.
Roald worked in _____.		Roald walked with a _____.
He rode a _____.		Roald lived in _____ when he was a boy.
He ate lots of _____.		Roald went to boarding _____.
His parents were from _____.		He gave some of his _____ to a children's hospital.
_____ was knocked over by a car.		

## While-reading activities

### Chapter 1

- Add all the verbs that can collocate with "hair"



### Chapters 2 & 3

1. What was yucky about Mr. Twit's beard?
2. Why is the word NEVER in capital letters?
3. What's the name of this literary figure "His hair grew in spikes that stuck out straight like the bristles of a nailbrush"?

**Project:** Mr Twit from Roald Dahl's *The Twits* is one of the most horrible and messy men ever. His beard is full of disgusting left-over food like sardines, cheese and cornflakes. Draw or stick the pieces of food you have read to make it disgusting!



4. Why was Mr Twit never hungry?
5. What adjectives could describe the decaying food?
6. What similes could describe the decaying food?
7. Mr Twit's beard is describe

using the metaphor a 'hairy jungle.' Discuss as a class.

- What does the word 'jungle' make you think of?
- How might a jungle be similar to Mr Twit's beard?

8. Mr. Twit is 60 years old. Write about some of the disgusting things that he has done throughout his life.

### *Chapters 4 & 5*

1. What is a compliment? Give examples
2. What was weird about Mrs. Twit's glass eye?
3. What was the real reason why she was ugly?
4. Do you ever have ugly thoughts? Give examples
5. What did she use the walking stick for?
6. Who do you play nasty tricks on? What kind of tricks? Give examples

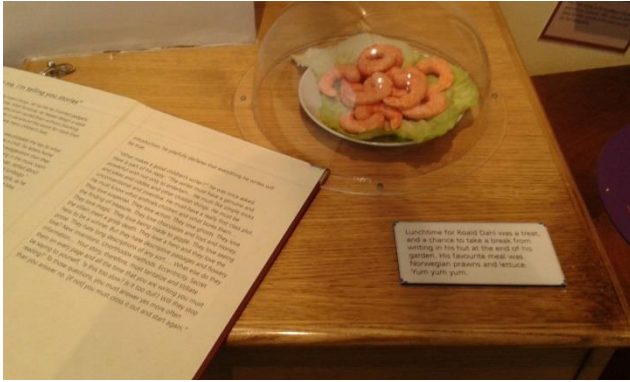


### *Chapter 6*

7. What's the meaning of "pay somebody back for"? Write a sentence using the expression in context
8. How do Mr and Mrs Twit use language to make the trick even more foolproof?

#### **Discuss the impact of:-**

- Exaggeration and invention by Mr Twit, when he calls the frog a Giant Skillywiggler.
- Mrs Twit's use of alliteration and simile as when she says, "I watch you like a wombat."
- The Twits' attempts to play upon each other's fears by using warnings – such as when Mr Twit says "It'll bite off your toes" and when Mrs Twit says "I've got eyes everywhere so you'd better be careful."



## Chapter 7

- ❖ Why does Mr Twit fall for the trick?
- ❖ Think of some vocabulary which might describe what a plate of worms tastes like!
- ❖ How are spaghetti and worms similar? Generate a list of adjectives and synonyms.

- ❖ Invent Mrs Twit's Trick Menu. This should have:
  - A Starter, Main Course and Dessert;
  - A name and description for each entry;

### Match the sentences with the quotes:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a. "I told you I was watching you."                 | 1. A frog was on Mrs Twit's face.                 |
| b. "Help! Save me! It's all over my feet!"          | 2. The long, tomato-covered strings tasted bitter |
| c. "By golly it is a Giant Skillywiggler!" finished | 3. Mr Twit was grossed out when he his beer.      |
| d. "Hey, my spaghetti's moving!"                    | 4. Something cold and slimy was crawling around.  |

## Chapters 8 - 10

### Answer the questions

1. What disease did Mr. Twit convince his wife she had?
2. Which two items had he adjusted so that she would believe him?
3. What would be left on Mrs. Twit after the legs shrunk into her feet?
4. How could they cure the disease?

## Chapters 11 - 13

### Answer the questions

1. How many balloons did Mr Twit had ready?
2. What did Mr Twit use to fill the balloons?
3. What did Mr Twit use to cut the strings?
4. Where did Mrs Twit think the balloons could take her?

5. What happened when Mrs Twit bit the twenty strings?
6. What billowed like a parachute?
7. What was Mrs Twit not?
8. Was Mr Twit stung by a giant wasp?
9. Did Mrs Twit make a noise when she came floating down?

**Colour idioms**

10. Do you have the same expressions in your own language? Can you add some more?
  - **To go green with envy**
  - **To go white with fear**
  - **To be purple with rage**

*Project:* Write about a new practical joke that Mr. and Mrs. Twit play on each other

*Chapter 14*

**Complete the sentences**

1. The Twit's house looked like a prison because it had no.....
2. Mr Twit grew spiky thistles in his garden to.....
3. Mr Twit didn't want windows.....

✓ Underline use of adjectives, alliteration and simile to describe the house and garden.

*Discussion*

Mr. Twit keeps monkeys in a cage... What is your opinion about keeping animals in cages in the circus or in zoos etc. What are the arguments for and against these different places?

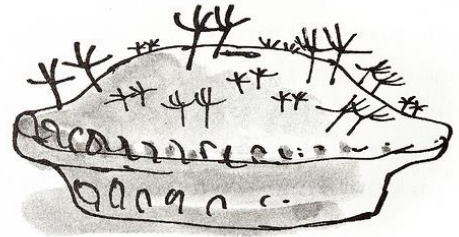
FOR	AGAINST

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## Chapter 15 & 16

### Answer the questions

1. Name 3 types of bird that goes into a bird pie
2. On what day did Mr Twit paint the tree with Hugtight?
3. When did the Twits have bird pie for supper?
4. Why did the boys go into the Twit's garden?
5. Where did the boys find the ladder?
6. What has 'more meat and not so many tiny little bones'?
7. What was winking at the sun?



## Chapters 17 -28

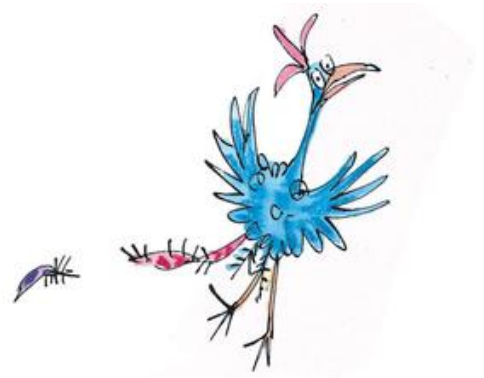


### Answer the questions

1. What was Mr Twit's dream?
2. How many monkeys were in the cage?
3. Do the monkeys like the Twits? Explain how you know
4. Where do the monkeys come from?
5. What day did the Roly-Poly Bird arrive?
6. On which day did Mr Twit paint the monkey cage with glue?
7. How many birds did Mr Twit catch on top of the monkey cage?

### Project

- ✚ The Roly Poly Bird sings a warning song to stop birds landing on the sticky tree. Look at the song and find the rhyming words. Can you think of other words that rhyme with those?



8. How long did Mr Twit expect to be away at the shop?
9. How did the monkeys get out of the locked cage?
10. What did Muggle-Wump want to fill the buckets with?
11. Name two places where Mr Twit hid his keys.
12. What gives the Roly-Poly Bird the shudders?

13. Where did the monkeys paint glue first?
14. Where do Mr and Mrs Twit eat their meals?
15. Who else helped the monkeys?
16. What had a red and gold pattern on it?
17. Which item of furniture was second to go on the ceiling?
18. Does Muggle-Wump like the plastic gnome? How do you know?
19. What were the last things to be turned upside down?
20. What did the Twits think the ravens had put on their heads?
21. Where do the monkeys plan to spend the winter?

### *Chapter 29*

#### *Discuss*

Do you think this is an effective ending to the story?

- Why or why not?
- How else might the story have ended?

*The End*